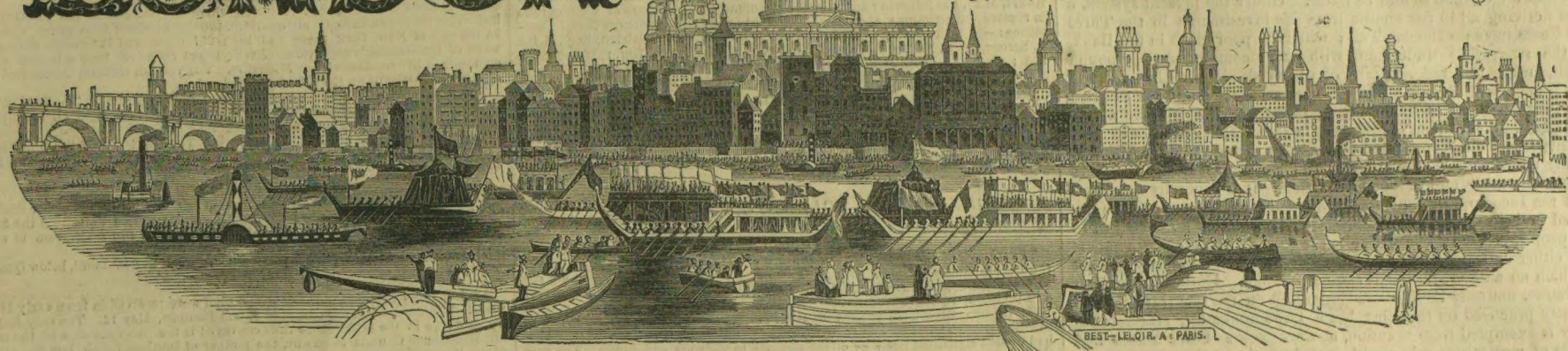


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



No. 378.—Vol. XIV.]

FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1849.

[SIXPENCE.]

OUR FINANCIAL POSITION.

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer has presented his Budget; and considerable satisfaction has been felt and expressed at the results which it exhibits. If we be not compelled by the pressure of an overwhelming misery in Ireland to be generous to that country without being just to ourselves, and if the far from over-sanguine anticipations of the Chancellor of the Exchequer be realised, we shall have the small surplus of £94,304 at the conclusion of the financial year. That sum is calculated as the probable amount of our surplus wealth on the 5th of April next ensuing. Shall it be applied towards the payment of our enormous debt in the shape of a magnificently minute dividend of one-eighth or one-ninth of a farthing in the pound; or shall taxes to that amount, affecting injuriously the health, morals, comfort, and occupations of the people be forthwith repealed? These are the questions which have already been asked, but to which any reply would be somewhat premature in this year of 1849. When we realise the surplus, it will be quite time enough to deal with it.

Yet, although, upon the whole, the Budget is a good deal more consolatory than might have been anticipated, and although we have as a nation every right to be grateful, that, amid the unparalleled disasters and convulsions of the time, we have not suffered more greatly from the political and commercial difficulties of the world, we do well to reflect that our financial condition is not what it ought to be. There is a deep and general feeling that the whole system of taxation needs revision and reform; that we are spending more than is just, prudent, or safe; that the reform of the tariff commenced by Sir Robert Peel might be carried further, both with advantage to the people and to the revenue; and that the question of direct taxation, fairly and equitably levied upon realised property, has not yet received from our statesmen, or from the public generally, the attention which it merits.

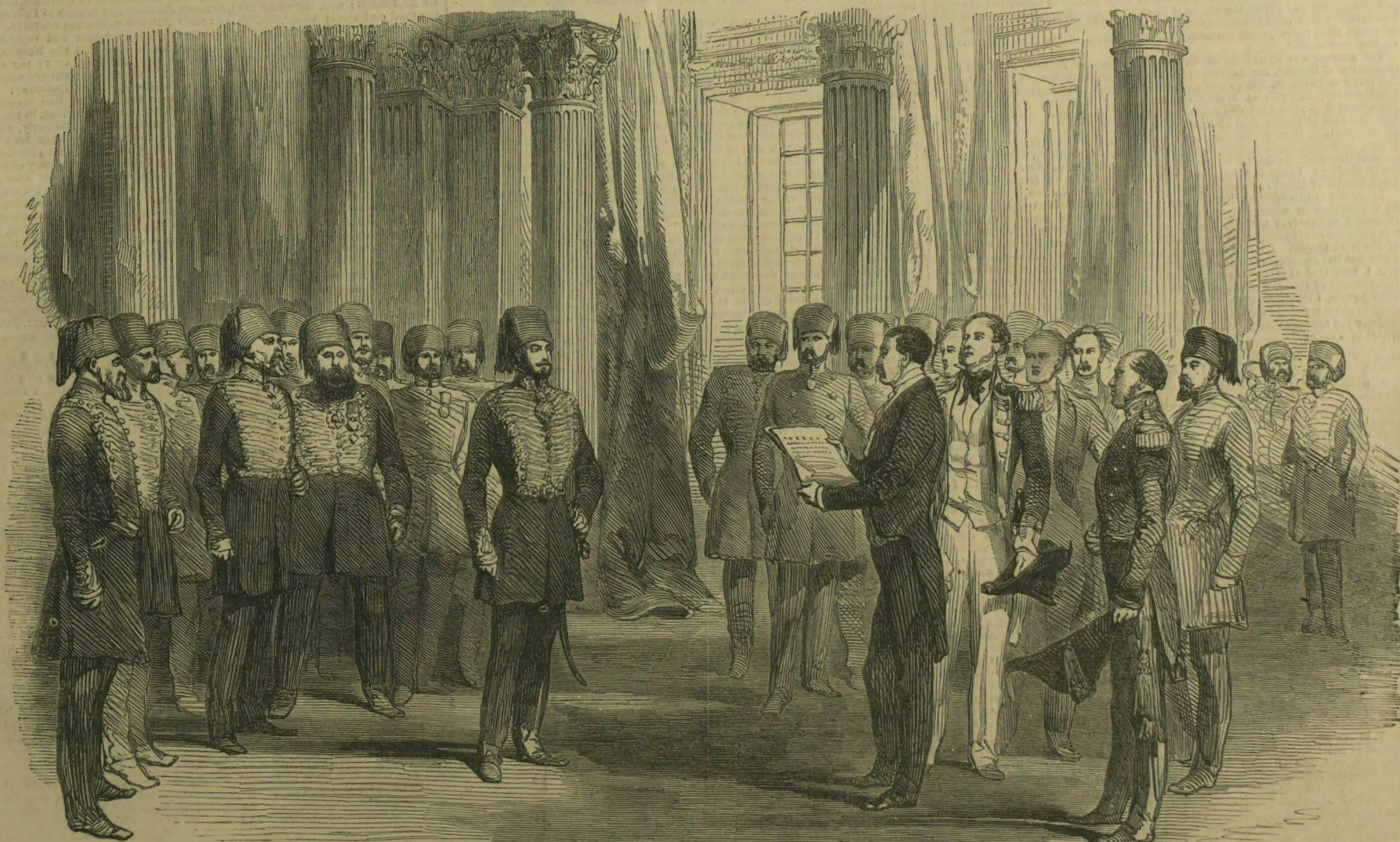
The Chancellor of the Exchequer seems to participate in this

feeling to a considerable extent, if we may judge from his speech on the introduction of the Budget. Like all other men that become Ministers of State, he does not hold out the prospect of any great economy. Nor should we be surprised at this, when we consider that out of every pound produced by taxation we pay at least eleven or twelve shillings as interest upon the debt incurred by the wars of our forefathers, and five shillings for our present defences. It is evident, therefore, that the margin left for present economy is small. But the Ministry, though—from necessity more than from predilection—no great economists, cannot be unaware of the public sentiment of dissatisfaction with our fiscal system. We trust they are not disinclined to treat the subject at a fitting opportunity with the care it demands, and with the largeness of purpose essential to its satisfactory handling. In the meantime, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, very wisely, as we think, deprecates the isolated repeal of any small, though vexatious and unjust taxes, on the faith of such a surplus as he has announced in his present Budget. It is clear, as the right honourable gentleman says, that if we are to give up any moderate amount of surplus that may be obtained in repealing some small amount of taxation, we shall never be in a condition to make any of those larger changes which would be most beneficial to the country. The subject must, in fact, be considered in its unity; and when one honourable gentleman insists upon the reduction of the tea duties as the one thing needful; when another offers a plan by which the duties on malt, hops, bricks, soap, windows, paper, and advertisements might be removed without loss to the revenue; or when another considers the tax upon attorneys as the greatest of all the grievances of our system, we can but applaud the determination of the Government in refusing to enter upon the matter in this fragmentary method. What is wanted is the master-mind that shall grapple with the subject as a whole. No partial reforms will suffice; no local alleviation will stay the national demand for a thorough reform. Finance is the touch-stone of all

statesmanship in every country, and in this more especially; and it will continue to be so until some great public benefactor shall devise and carry to completion an equitable and inoppressive scheme whereby a sufficient revenue shall be raised to pay all current and necessary expenses, and provide for the gradual but certain extinction of our enormous National Debt.

The comparatively favourable state of the revenue during the current year will probably lead to the postponement of this paramount subject for awhile. But it will not, because it cannot, be lost sight of. We have increased the public debt when we ought to have diminished it: we have depended upon China money and other windfalls and irregularities to make both ends meet, when we should have depended upon ordinary revenue; and though we have abolished a few taxes, we have imposed a new one which presses very injuriously upon the doubtful incomes and precarious energies of struggling and industrious men. All this must be amended; if not during this year, in the next—if not in the next, at a remoter period, with all the disadvantages, if not the perils, which delays in matters of vital consequence are sure to entail.

Sir Robert Peel has done much as a financial reformer, which never can be undone. He has also done a great deal to create dissatisfaction; and, by placing a notoriously and admittedly unjust burden upon the shoulders of the most valuable class of the community, has impaired the national morality, as was shown in the returns of the Income and Property Tax, upon which we offered some remarks in our Journal of the 16th instant. But, notwithstanding all his faults in the latter respect, he has traced out the path which the nation must follow, if it is ever to be extricated from a vicious system. Tea duties, that enhance the price of a necessary of life to the poor, and enormously diminish consumption, must be reduced; window duties, duties upon soap, and all other taxes affecting the public health; the excise upon paper, and all other imposts operating as taxes upon knowledge; must be abolished, together with all taxes that impede commerce and trade, or clog



the industry of the most industrious people in the world. In this respect, Sir Robert Peel has made a beginning. He has shewn us the path to be pursued; and, sooner or later, it will become necessary to advance along it a good deal further than we have yet gone. It will be necessary at the same time to reimpose and readjust the Income and Property Tax, and abolish the odious injustice which at present disfigures it. The true principle of an Income and Property Tax is that all realised property should be liable to it; that precarious income should be valued at a less amount than income which is derived from permanent investment; and that all income should be liable. Under the present system, a man deriving £149 per annum from his investments in the Three per Cents pays no Income Tax; while the poor clerk in the Bank, or the struggling tradesman, with an income of but one pound additional, is mulcted annually of ninety shillings. Under it, the single man, with £149 per annum, goes scot-free; and the married man, with a family of half a dozen, perhaps, and only £150 a year to maintain them upon, is fleeced of a sum which might have paid his life insurance, or provided that decent apparel for himself and family which they are now obliged to forego. All this is unworthy of our character, and of our civilization. It is generally conceded that the Income Tax must be permanent; but it can only be endured by being made equitable. The Government must be just to the people, or the people will take the remedy into their own hands, and either defraud the Government or nurse an animosity against it which no wise Government should provoke. Under its present operation, not only is injustice committed on the one side and dishonesty practised on the other, but a large amount of realised property is exempted from taxation, at the expense of the brains and hands of men whose sole wealth is their skill and their labour. In a letter from Mr. Ray Smee, of the Bank of England, to a contemporary, it is stated that from fifteen to twenty per cent. of the National Debt is untaxed, and that upwards of 1,800,000 persons, with incomes varying from £50 and £150 per annum, have been exempted from taxation at the expense of those who have more than £150. The equalization of the tax would, according to his estimate, raise an additional five millions; supported by which, a whole host of injurious taxes, affecting all classes, and especially the poorest and the most industrious, might be swept away. Favourable years, like the present, afford the best opportunities for discussing the subject. In more unprosperous years its discussion might not be so likely to lead to a fair and full comprehension of its vast importance. It is in this direction that Financial Reform must travel. The path has been indicated; and sooner or later our statesmen must look to it. The sooner they devote their whole energies to the subject, the better for their reputations and for the country.

ADDRESS FROM THE IRISH NATION TO THE SULTAN.

We have been favoured with the following communication, dated

Constantinople, June 5.

A few days since, Mr. O'Brien had the honour of being received by his Majesty, the Sultan, at the Imperial palace at Beglerbey. Mr. O'Brien presented to the Sultan an address, signed by the leading people of Ireland, thanking his Majesty for his generous donation of £1000 for the relief of distress in that country. It is proper that it should be known that the Sultan originally offered to send £10,000 to Ireland, as well as some ships laden with provisions. It was, however, suggested at the time, by his Majesty's Ministers, that it would not be proper for a foreign Sovereign to make so large a donation, and that £1000, which was half the sum contributed by Queen Victoria for the same purpose, would be sufficient. The money was transmitted to England by Lord Cowley, then British Minister at Constantinople, and whose conduct on that occasion deserves the praise of every Irishman.

The address presented was written upon vellum, and was in the richest and most elaborate style of illuminated engraving.

The following is a copy of the address, which was translated into Turkish for the Sultan by Mr. Pisani, dragoman to the British Embassy:—

TO HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY, ABDUL MEDJID KHAN, EMPEROR OF TURKEY.

"May it please your Majesty,

"We, the undersigned noblemen, gentlemen, and inhabitants of Ireland, beg leave most respectfully to approach your Majesty, in order to testify our deep-thanks and gratitude for the munificent act of benevolence and attention lately displayed by your Majesty towards the suffering and afflicted inhabitants of Ireland; and to thank your Majesty, on their behalf, for the liberal contribution of £1000 lately given by your Majesty to relieve the sufferings of the Irish people.

"It had pleased Providence to deprive this country suddenly of its staple article of food, and to visit the poor inhabitants with privations such as have seldom fallen to the lot of any civilized nation to endure. In this emergency, your Majesty evinced a generous sympathy for the Irish people, thereby displaying a worthy example to other great nations to assist their suffering fellow-creatures in affliction.

"For this timely and benevolent act, whereby numbers were relieved and saved from perishing, we beg leave again, on their behalf, to testify our grateful acknowledgments to your Majesty, and to express an ardent hope that the vast territories which acknowledge your sway and participate in your bounties will be saved from those privations and afflictions which it has been our unhappy destiny to endure."

The address was signed by his Grace the Primate of Ireland, the Lord High Chancellor of Ireland, the Archbishop of Dublin, the R. C. Archbishop of Dublin, the Duke of Leinster, Marquis of Ormonde, Marquis of Clanricarde, Marquis of Londonderry, Marquis of Waterford, Marquis of Headfort, Marquis of Ely, Marquis of Sligo, the Earl of Charlemont, Earl of Cork, Earl of Fingall, Earl of Leitrim, Earl of Roden, Earl of Gosford, Earl of Caledon, Earl of Bandon, Earl of Enniskillen, Earl of Ranfurly, Earl of Erne, Lord Claude Hamilton, Lord Stuart de Decies, Lord Monck, Sir Lucius O'Brien, General Sir Charles Napier, Colonel Caulfield, Sir Henry W. Barron, Sir R. Pakenham, Sir James Strange, Sir G. Hodson, Francis Sadleir, Provost of Trinity College; David La Touche, High Sheriff of Dublin; Frederic Shaw, Recorder of Dublin, &c.

In answer to this address, his Majesty the Sultan said he was greatly flattered by the manner in which the distinguished persons from whom it emanated expressed themselves towards himself and the country over which he ruled. "It gave me great pain," continued the Sultan, "when I heard of the sufferings of the Irish people. I would have done all in my power to relieve their wants. I now feel the sincerest pleasure at learning that their sufferings have ceased; and I pray God that for the future they may be prosperous and happy, and independent of the aid of other nations. In contributing to the relief of the Irish people, I only listened to the dictates of my own heart; but it was also my duty to show my sympathy for the sufferings of a portion of the subjects of her Majesty the Queen of England, for I look upon England as the best and truest friend of Turkey."

FAMINE IN IRELAND.

A public meeting took place on Wednesday evening at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, for the purpose of hearing the statements of a deputation from the Relief Committee in Dublin, on the subject of the alarming distress now prevalent in Ireland, and with a view to suggest measures for preventing its periodical recurrence. There was a very full attendance. Mr. Bright, M.P., presided; and on the platform were Colonel Rawdon, M.P.; Mr. Tennison, M.P.; Mr. Caulfield, M.P.; Mr. O'Flaherty, M.P.; Mr. P. Scrope, M.P.; Mr. Ewart, M.P.; Mr. McCullagh, M.P.; Mr. John O'Connell, M.P.; Mr. M. J. Blake, M.P.; Mr. Reynolds, M.P.; Rev. Dr. Milley, &c.

The Chairman opened the proceedings with an explanatory statement. He observed, "The deputation from Ireland is composed of gentlemen with whom I have had no acquaintance before this meeting was proposed, except by name. They are, I believe, connected politically with various parties, and religiously with different denominations in Ireland. They are not here on what may be called vulgarly a begging expedition. (Hear, hear.) They come for a higher and more permanent object than that. They wish to state distinctly, accurately, and simply what they know of the condition of large masses of their fellow-countrymen; and they feel assured that the wealthy and benevolent in England will be willing, as the opportunity may be afforded them, to make some contribution to that committee which they represent here, with the view of giving relief, in certain districts, and to a considerable portion of the population, during the short period which shall pass between the present time and the full gathering of the harvest. (Hear.) This is the time of all others when the people of Ireland suffer most; it is what they call the period between the new and the old provision. For this month and the next, and a portion of the month after, there will be an accumulated suffering in Ireland. (Hear, hear.) And it is essential during that period that this laborious committee should have the support and assistance of the wealthy and benevolent in this city and country, to enable them to continue that distribution of relief which they have been so admirably conducting for some time past. (Hear, hear.) It may be said that much has been already done in Ireland, and from the resources of this country. No man denies that. The very last people in this room to deny it will be the gentlemen of the Irish deputation." (Hear, hear.) Having recapitulated all that has been done in the way of relief, the hon. gentleman proceeded:—"This is a great deal; but it only proves the enormous, the incredible extent of the calamity we had to meet. (Hear, hear.) It was no trifling, temporary, local, or partial disorder, but a vast disease, spreading over half a nation, and involving this country and Ireland in greater exertions than probably were ever made before in the history of the world

by any government and any people. (Hear, hear.) The Relief Committee is pursuing its labours on a most admirable system. It has branch committees in a very large number of the distressed parishes, unions, and districts in the south and west of Ireland; the parties connected with these sub-committees are generally the Roman Catholic priests, the clergymen of the Established Church, gentlemen, and persons of every party; because party differences, with all the best people of the country, at any rate, have been swallowed up in this great calamity. (Hear, hear.) They propose to give relief especially to those of the peasantry who hold some portion of land, and who would have been unable, but for the exertions of the committee, in many cases, to cultivate it, and make preparation for the forthcoming harvest and the future year."

The members of the deputation entered into statements descriptive of the present wretched condition of the country; and then, on the motion of Mr. Ewart, M.P., the following gentlemen were nominated members of a committee to receive subscriptions and transmit them to the Corn Exchange Relief Committee:—H. Christy, Esq.; G. W. Alexander, Esq., M.P.; R. Cobden, Esq., M.P.; P. Scrope, Esq., M.P.; J. Tritton, Esq., M.P.; R. Godley, Esq.; W. Bennett, Esq.; W. Ewart, Esq., M.P.; C. Gilpin, Esq.; J. Bright, Esq., M.P.

On the motion of Mr. P. Scrope, M.P., it was resolved:—That the interests of England, no less than Ireland, require that some energetic action be taken to elevate the condition of the Irish people, and enable them to sustain themselves by the exercise of that industry which has characterized them when placed in circumstances favourable to its development; and that we are convinced that object can be materially advanced by measures which will remove the obstacles which at present impede the application of labour and capital to the soil, and will secure to the occupier the enjoyment of the fruits of his industry.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The abuses of the liberty of the press which have marked the journalism of the Revolutionary writers, both in Paris and the Departments, have led the Government to introduce to the Assembly a bill on the subject, which is rather of a severe and penal character.

M. Odillon Barrot, in presenting the measure on Monday, took occasion to describe the perils resulting to society from the impunity of the press, which had of late signalled itself by direct appeals to violence and revolt. The new law prohibits representatives of the people from being responsible agents of journals, and interdicts the opening of subscriptions to pay the fines incurred by editors. In future, a journal may be suspended for provocation to civil war; and its editor sentenced to fine and imprisonment, from one month to two years, for attempting to seduce the troops from their allegiance; and to fine and imprisonment, from one month to one year, for circulating false intelligence with a view to disturb public peace. The *cautionnement*, or security in money, is maintained. Severe penalties are also pronounced against the writers of seditious pamphlets and publications. The bill consists of 19 articles.

The Assembly was occupied the whole of Monday and Tuesday with a debate on foreign affairs, originated by MM. Mangin and Savois, with a view of shewing that the present foreign policy of the French Government was contrary to the spirit of the new constitution of the Republic.

M. Tocqueville, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, replied to both speakers, and among other things stated that M. Savois had himself gone on the 15th of May to Offenbach, had harangued there a meeting of insurgents in very revolutionary language, and promised them, in the name of M. Ledru-Rollin, the support of the Socialists of France. The Minister also declared that France was not in any danger of war, and that, if liberty had suffered in Germany, it was entirely owing to the conduct of the Revolutionary party itself.

The principal incident of Tuesday's discussion was the speech of General Cavaignac, who strongly advocated peace, and eulogised the English alliance. The Assembly, on a division, adopted the order of the day pure and simple, by a majority of 353 to 162, a decision in favour of the Government.

On Wednesday, M. Bovet complained of the extension of the state of siege beyond Lyons.

The Minister of the Interior replied, that the Government were fully aware of the ramifications of the late conspiracy, and would have been guilty of a dereliction of duty had they not sought for increased powers to put it down. The Government would remove the state of siege as soon as it could be done with safety.

The Assembly then proceeded with the order of the day.

From Toulon we learn that a reinforcement of four batteries of artillery and two regiments of the line have been embarked for Civita Vecchia. The steam-boat *Caton*, which returned to Toulon from Port Vendres on the 21st instant, received orders to sail forthwith for Italy, with despatches from the Government for General Oudinot and M. de Corcelles. She sailed again from Toulon on the 21st.

ITALIAN STATES.

ROME.—The accounts from the "Eternal City" are so contradictory—some representing the city as having been entered by the French amidst great slaughter on both sides; others denying the slaughter, but affirming the entrance of General Oudinot; while, again, a third version declares that the French are still outside the walls—all are so varied and different from each other, that it is not an easy matter to ascertain the actual position of affairs. The most authentic account states, that on the 21st the besieging army had effected three practicable breaches, and that preparations were being made for the assault.

The following telegraphic despatch, dated Toulon, the 23rd inst., half-past 7 p.m., addressed to the French Government, confirms that intelligence, and communicates an additional item of news:—

"ADMIRAL TREHOUART TO THE MINISTER OF MARINE.

"CIVITA VECCHIA, June 23.

"General Oudinot writes—

"From the trenches, June 22, 2 o'clock a.m.—

"The assault took place last night at 11 o'clock. Three columns have penetrated by the breaches made in the bastions Nos. 6 and 7, and the curtain which unites them. The troops marched with resolution, and have carried the positions without much loss. Up to the present moment the ambulance (the hospital) has received only two captains and eight or ten men. The gabions established at the gorge of the two bastions are much advanced, and the positions will be secured before daylight. In a word, the operations are altogether satisfactory."

Somewhat later intelligence adds that on the French entering the breach, a second wall was discovered within the rampart, of amazing thickness, which, it was said, General Oudinot would find it almost impossible to destroy. The Romans work night and day in throwing up fortifications; and General Oudinot seems to have met with a more formidable resistance than he had ever calculated upon.

So far with respect to the capital of the Papal States. In the provinces, we find that Ancona surrendered to the Austrians on the 18th after a well-sustained bombardment. The conditions of the capitulation are—a political amnesty for the inhabitants, the dissolution of the corps forming the present garrison, and the occupation of the fortress and of the port of Ancona by the Imperial troops in the name of his Holiness the Pope. The port of Ancona has been effectually blockaded by ships of war of the Austrian navy. The Austrian Minister, on notifying officially that measure to the French Chargé d'Affaires at Vienna, added, "that the sole object of the Austrian Government is to co-operate in the re-establishment of the Pontifical authority, and that the blockade shall be raised when that object shall have been effected."

The Municipal Council of Bologna has sent a deputation to Gaëta to express to the Holy Father the sentiments of fidelity and attachment towards him on the part of the population, as also their desire for the maintenance of constitutional institutions. Nearly all the towns of the Romagna and the Marshes intend presenting addresses to the same effect.

VENICE.—This devoted city of the waves still holds out against its Austrian besiegers. Assistance was expected from Hungary; and it was said that a letter from Kossuth to Manin (the Venetian Dictator) had been received, expressing his regret that he could not send assistance to Venice so speedily as he wished, but assuring him he would do his best to send relief as soon as possible, and remitting at the same time a sum of 2,000,000 florins (about 5,000,000*l.*) to the Venetian Government.

PIEDMONT.—In conformity with the treaty entered into between both powers, the Austrians evacuated, on the 20th instant, the citadel of Alessandria. They have, however, occupied the territory of Valenza, which is not included in the condition of the armistice, and concentrated on that point a force of 6000 men, which renders them absolute masters of the entire valley of the Tanaro.

The *Piedmontese Gazette* publishes the decision of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies, authorizing the Minister of Finance to conclude abroad a loan of 50,000,000*l.*

GERMAN STATES.

BADEN AND BAVARIA.—Several actions were fought between the Prussians under the command of the Prince of Prussia and General Peuchner, and the insurgents under Mieroslawski, on the 21st instant and three succeeding days. The insurgents, when attacked, were concentrated on the banks of the Neckar. They were entirely routed. Mannheim and Heidelberg are taken. Mieroslawski and the remnant of his army have taken flight towards the line of mountains on the borders of the Grand Duchy of Baden. The Free Corps have dispersed in the country. A counter-revolution is stated to have driven the insurgents from Carlsruhe.

WURTEMBERG.—The "Rump" Frankfort Parliament has been expelled from Stuttgart by the Wurtemberg Government.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

Accounts from the seat of war state that a series of actions between the combined Imperial forces and the Hungarian corps under Georgey, terminated, on the 21st instant, by the defeat of the Hungarians. The battle is stated to have taken place at Galantha, and General Georgey's forces are quoted at 40,000 men, with 60 pieces of artillery. The Imperialists were commanded by the Austrian General Wollheimuth and the Russian General Panin. It is added that the Hungarians were forced to recross the Waag on all points.

This news comes through Vienna, and requires confirmation, as it is the Austrian version.

The four Russian corps which have entered Hungary, by way of Dukla, Komuna, Grab, and Irby, amount to 144,000 men.

RUSSIA.

We have from Warsaw, under date of the 23rd instant, the announcement of the arrival of his Majesty the Czar in the capital of his Polish provinces. The Czar was accompanied by the Counts Orloff and Aldenberg.

There prevails great mortality among the Russian troops at Kalish. No less than 1000 soldiers died within the fourteen days preceding the above date.

PORTUGAL.

There has been a change of Ministry at Lisbon. The new cabinet is composed of the Conde de Thomar, Home Department; Conde de Tojal, Foreign Affairs; Avilla, Finance; Felix Fereira de Magalhães, Justice; Ferrer, War; Florida, Marine.

The ex-King of Sardinia, Charles Albert, lies dangerously ill. He has refused the Queen's invitation to Lisbon, and says he will never go to any Court again.

UNITED STATES.

By the Royal Mail Steam-ship *Niagara* we have accounts this week to the 13th inst. from New York.

There is little news of interest by this arrival.

The cholera was the great subject of universal concern in the country. It had made its appearance in all quarters, though nowhere with much violence. In the city of New York there had been 257 cases and 122 deaths during the week of the steamer's departure. Ex-President Polk had been attacked by the epidemic at his residence near Nashville. The veteran General Gaines had died of it at New Orleans on the 5th instant.

The Indian depredations in Southern Texas were continued. The flood at New Orleans remained unchecked; the water continuing to rise, and all attempts to arrest its inroads having been abandoned.

There was no later news from California. The United States ship *Lexington* had reached New York from San Francisco on the 10th inst., bringing 1218 lb. of gold.

CANADA.

There is nothing new from this quarter. The effect in Canada of the decisive and unanimous support which Lord Elgin's administration finds from the Sovereign, public opinion, and the press at home, tends to the restoration of order and authority.

The Governor-General intends passing the summer at Beaumont, below Quebec.

INDIA.

Advices in anticipation of the overland mail were received in town early in the week. The dates are, Calcutta, May 2, and Bombay, May 12. The only feature worth notice in the intelligence thus conveyed is the reappearance of the missing Maharajah Chunda Koonwur, the mother of Dhuleep Singh, late Maharajah of the Punjab, who, having been removed from Benares to Chunar for safe custody, had, on the night of the 18th of April, contrived to make her escape from prison, and after ten days made her appearance in Nepal, having travelled 300 miles in the disguise of a pilgrim through the most populous parts of Bengal. On announcing her arrival, all she asked for from the Court was leave to live at liberty.

A second arrival, by extraordinary express, which reached town on Thursday evening, brings intelligence to the 8th of May from Calcutta, and the 21st from Bombay. The only facts of any political importance contained in the papers are, the reported surrender of the Ranees to the British authorities by the Court of Nepal, and the final suppression of the insurrection in the Nizam's dominions, together with the capture of the pretended Appa Sahib.

From Calcutta we learn that Sir C. Napier reached that place on Sunday, the 6th of May, and disembarked about half-past three o'clock in the afternoon, under a salute from the fort guns.

Sir Charles was sworn in on the 7th, in the usual manner, and took his seat, in accordance with his appointment, as Extraordinary Member of the Council of India.

CHINA.

Matters in this distant quarter look as if we were likely to have a quarrel with the Chinese again. Accounts from Hong-Kong to the 25th of April state that entrance to the city of Canton has been refused us, the Emperor declining to carry out the stipulation of the treaty, which provided for that privilege to British subjects at the close of two years from the 6th of April, 1847.

The Governor has directed that no British subjects shall for the present attempt to enter the city, and most of the vessels of war that had assembled here have sailed for other stations.

Preparations for resistance have been made on the part of the Chinese. Doctor Bowring assumed charge of his duties as Consul at Canton on the 13th of April.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

FLEETWOOD, PRESTON, AND WEST RIDING JUNCTION.—June 27: Adjourned Special Meeting: Preston: Mr. T. B. Addison in the chair.—The report from the committee of investigation was received. When this line is joined with the Lancaster and Preston and Preston and Wyre, the receipts it is believed will meet the present liabilities, and also afford a revenue. Payment of all arrears is to be enforced immediately. The directors were complimented for their management and the correctness of their published accounts.

Mr. Woolcomb headed a meeting of bondholders of the SOUTH DEVON (representing £153,000 of bonds becoming due), who seek, with the aid of the directors, to improve the general prospects of the company.

WHARFDALE.—June 22: Special Meeting: Leeds: Mr. G. Leeman in the chair.—The chairman introduced the outlines of the Dissolution Bill (which we noticed last week), and the meeting determined to petition Parliament in its favour. The directors are to be requested to abstain from making any call, or in any way attempting to proceed with the line; and a committee is to be appointed to confer with the board as to the liabilities and accounts of the company. All the shareholders present appeared to agree to an abandonment of the line.

NORFOLK.—A special meeting of the proprietors in this company was held at the offices, in Guildhall-buildings, on the 28th inst.—A. Duff, Esq., in the chair—to consider the bill now before Parliament, for the amalgamation of this company with the Eastern Counties Company. The chairman having moved a resolution approving of the bill, Mr. Peto entered into a long statement to show that, should the Eastern Counties Company—which there was some reason to believe they might do—attempt to upset the agreement for amalgamation, and disapprove of the bill, the Norfolk Company were in a position to carry on the working of their own line profitably. He stated that by their agreement with the Eastern Counties Company they had undertaken to complete the line for £2,300,000; and, including the Lowestoft Harbour and branch to Fakenham, the total cost would be £2,233,748, or nearly £70,000 within the estimate. The committee of investigation of the Eastern Counties Company had reported in favour of the amalgamation. Mr. Peto proceeded to show that the Norfolk line *per se* would return them a dividend of 4s. 3d. per half-year, or 2½ per cent., and that against 3s. 7½d. which the committee of investigation showed ought to be the average half-yearly dividend on the Eastern Counties Company. The Eastern Counties Directors had also shown that the Norfolk line brought a traffic of £59,000 half-yearly on to the Eastern Counties line; so that, in addition to their own dividend of 2½ per cent., they had that £59,000 half-yearly, which, if they were working independently, they could transfer to another line, and see what they could get for it. He advised the shareholders of that company to confirm the agreement, and, at considerable length, urged the propriety of working all lines by contract under the superintendence of three or four able directors, who should be sufficiently paid to induce them to give their time to a proper development of the resources of the line. After some discussion the amalgamation bill was approved, and a vote of thanks given to the chairman.

In the dissolution of the LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM Extension, and NORTHAMPTON, DAVENTRY, LEAMINGTON, and WARWICK, Mr. H. Croysdell, of Old Jewry, was appointed official manager. There are liabilities amounting to £10,000.

In the dissolution of the BRIGHTON, LEWES, and HASTINGS, Mr. H. J. Norris, of Gower-street, was appointed official manager. The liabilities are £4280; assets, £700; out of £35,700 payable on deposit, only £3486 was paid.

In the dissolution of the NORTHAMPTON, LINCOLN, and HULL Direction, Mr. W. C. Spiller was appointed official manager. The liabilities are nearly £15,000.

In the dissolution of the WORCESTER, TENBURY, and LUDLOW, Mr. A. K. Baker was appointed official manager. A Captain Richardson, as our readers may remember, was prosecuted for forging a cheque on Coutts's bank, by which he obtained £5000 of the deposits.

The great hollow Girder Bridge, of the MANCHESTER, SHEFFIELD, and LINCOLNSHIRE, across the Trent, at Gainsborough, was fixed in its place, about the same time as the floating of the Britannia Bridge took place. Designed by Mr. Fowler, and constructed by Messrs. Fairbairn, of Manchester, it is of the largest dimensions yet executed of that construction. It differs from the Britannia and Conway bridges in this respect, that instead of the trains running through the inside of the tube, the girders form the parapets of the bridge, and the roadway is supported by transverse wrought-iron hollow beams, also of the tubular construction.

During the week the Royal assent (the last step in Parliamentary sanction) has been given to the bills for the Universal Railway Casualty Compensation Company; Reading, Guildford, and Reigate (branch to London and South-Western); Chester and Holyhead (increase of capital, with powers to the London and North-Western to subscribe thereto); London and South-Western (extension of time for the purchase of lands and completion of works on the Basingstoke and Salisbury and Farnham and Alton lines); Cockermouth and Workington (branch to Bridgefoot, amendment of act and power to lease to Whitehaven Junction); Edinburgh and Glasgow, and Edinburgh and Glasgow Union Canal (amalgamation, or sale, or lease of the Union Canal to the Railway Company); Windsor Extension of the Windsor, Staines, and South-Western (Richmond to Windsor, with power to the South-Western to subscribe); Leeds and Thirsk (power to guarantee interest on certain shares, &c.).

A Parliamentary railway traffic return declares that during the half-year ending Dec. 1848, a total of 31,630,292 passengers were conveyed by railway. Total receipts, £3,283,302; receipts for goods, £5,744,965. Mileage open and used by the public, 5079½.

ELECTION FOR THE CITY OF LONDON.—The writ for the election of a member to serve in Parliament for the City of London was received by the Sheriffs on Thursday morning. At two o'clock Mr. Sheriff and Alderman Flenis, Mr. Undersheriff Shearman, and Mr. Secondary Potter, appeared on the hustings, in the Guildhall, when the writ having been read by Mr. Harker, Mr. Alderman Flenis stated that the Sheriffs would proceed to the nomination and election of a fit and discreet citizen to serve in Parliament for the City of London, on Monday next, the 2nd of July, at eleven for twelve of the clock at noon precisely, and in the event of a poll being demanded the poll will be opened the following day.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SPAIN.

The Earl of ABERDEEN inquired if there were any prospect of a speedy renewal of our diplomatic and friendly relations with the Spanish Government. The noble Earl remarked that it was more than a year since our diplomatic relations with the Court of Madrid had been abruptly terminated, under circumstances of indignity to the representative of her Britannic Majesty. Every Government possessed the power to dismiss an Ambassador at its Court, but he did not think that the Spanish Government was justified in its dismissal of Sir H. Bulwer. However, that policy of personality and hatred which distinguished her Majesty's Foreign Office at present, and which had been attended with so many mischievous results, had given the Spanish Government strong grounds for suspicion. But, as he understood the Spanish Government had expressed a desire to make any reparation consistent with Spanish honour, he could not see any difficulty in the way of an accommodation. The question rested altogether between the two Governments. Sir H. Bulwer had received the approbation of his Government, had obtained honours, and another diplomatic employment. The Spanish Government had taken the first step by admitting our cotton manufactures upon rather favourable terms; and he (Lord Aberdeen) would venture to predict, that, should the same Government remain in power, they would make a satisfactory arrangement with the English bondholders. But that arrangement would, of course, depend on ourselves.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE said that no justification, and no reparation, ample or not ample, had up to that moment been offered by the Spanish Government for the dismissal of Sir H. Bulwer. Last year her Majesty's Government had accepted the good offices of the King of the Belgians in this matter; but, notwithstanding various communications had passed, the King of the Belgians had not yet received any formal declaration from the Spanish Government that he could feel himself justified in recommending to the acceptance of the British Government. Although Sir H. Bulwer had obtained another appointment, it was still necessary that not only the honour of this country, but the personal honour of that gentleman, should be satisfied. Whenever the Government of Spain should think fit to offer reparation through the King of the Belgians, her Majesty's Government would give it their best consideration. With respect to the new Spanish tariff, it was a wise policy adopted by Spain on the most significant of all remonstrances—the remonstrance of the smuggler.

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY moved for the appointment of a committee to inquire into the expediency and advantage of abandoning the Post-office packet station and communication between Portpatrick and Donaghadee.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE opposed the motion. After a brief debate the motion was withdrawn; but Lord LONDONDERRY gave notice that he would on a future day move an address to the Crown on the subject.

On the motion of Lord CAMPBELL, the Encumbered Estates (Ireland) Bill went through committee *pro forma*.

The Grand Jury Cess (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

TRANSPORTATION FOR TREASON BILL.

Sir G. GREY moved the third reading of the Transportation for Treason (Ireland) Bill.

Mr. NAFFIER opposed the bill, and moved, as an amendment, that it be read a third time that day three months.

A short discussion ensued, in which Col. Rawdon, Mr. Spooner, Sir G. Grey, Mr. S. Crawford, and Mr. Reynolds took part, and the House divided. For the third reading, 159; against it, 27: majority for the third reading, 132.

The bill was read a third time.

Mr. ANSTEE then moved that the words "imprisonment during the Queen's pleasure, or banishment," be substituted for the word "transportation."

On a division there were—For Mr. Anstee's amendment, 21; against it, 146: majority against the amendment, 125.

The bill then passed.

POOR RELIEF (IRELAND) BILL.

The House went into Committee on the Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill; and on the clause for establishing a maximum rate being put,

Mr. STAFFORD pointed to the fact that the experiment of a maximum rate in England had entirely failed, and felt himself bound to take the sense of the House against the clause.

Mr. J. O'CONNELL suggested that a 2s. 6d. maximum was enough; and if there was a deficiency after that, then let it be supplied from the imperial treasury.

Mr. HORSMAN, in a speech which was loudly cheered, condemnatory of past legislation for Ireland, said all history told them that there was nothing so fatal as the recast of bad legislation, and they might depend upon it that the Irish difficulty would not be got rid of by putting it out of sight for a day; and he must say that Parliament even now, if possessed with a due sense of its responsibility with regard to Ireland, had an opportunity of remedying the existing evils. If this were not done, these questions would return upon them, but he was afraid without affording so excellent an opportunity of dealing with them as at present.

Lord J. RUSSELL replied to the arguments raised in opposition to the clause, expressing his belief that by imposing this maximum they would make the Poor-Law more advantageous than it could otherwise be, and encourage the application of capital to the cultivation of the land; he therefore trusted the committee would adopt it.

After explanations between Mr. Horsman, Lord John Russell, and Mr. C. Lewis, and speeches from Mr. H. Drummond, Mr. R. M. Fox, Mr. Monsell, Mr. E. B. Roche, Colonel Dunne, Mr. Spooner, and Sir A. Brooke, the committee divided, when the clause was affirmed by a majority of 127, the numbers being 178 to 51; after which the House resumed.

Mr. HAWES withdrew the Australian Colonies Bill, in consequence of an informality, and obtained leave to bring in a fresh bill.

The Juvenile Offenders, &c., Bill, after a short discussion, was read a second time.

Adjourned at a quarter past one o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

ROYAL COMMISSION.

The Royal Assent was given by commission to the Navigation Bill, the Transportation for Treason (Ireland) Bill, and a great many other bills.

PARLIAMENTARY OATHS (JEWS') BILL.

The Earl of CARLISLE moved the second reading of the Parliamentary Oaths Bill, the intention and provisions of which he explained at length. He admitted that that portion of the measure which related to the oath proposed to be tendered to members of the Jewish persuasion was the most important, and indeed the first and principal object of the bill. He considered that the root of the whole measure, and of the arguments by which it was defended, lay in the principle that in no case ought civil disqualification to be attached to religious opinions. He was of opinion that the oaths now administered were irrelevant, absurd, and obsolete; and he knew that some members of their Lordships' house were prevented from taking their seats—he named Lord Cloncurry as an example—because they could not conscientiously take the oaths required of them. The noble Earl, in a florid and poetical address, called on their Lordships to remove this last stigma of intolerance from the statute-book, and thus to crown the just measure of retribution for all the woes and all the wrongs of the past.

The Earl of EGLINTON objected to the bill on political grounds, but especially for religious reasons.

The Duke of CLEVELAND avowed that he had changed his opinion—which, since the great political apostasy of 1846, was nothing wonderful; but the reasons which induced him formerly to oppose the admission of Jews to Parliament no longer existed, or were greatly mitigated. We had since admitted Jews to civil and highly important offices; we had likewise admitted Quakers to the Legislature; and, therefore, he thought that we were bound in justice to go farther, and admit the Jews to Parliament. We had, perhaps, advanced too far; but, in the present spirit of the times, we should, if we did anything, advance—retrogression being out of the question.

The Archbishop of CANTERBURY thought that the circumstances of the last year furnished reasons for considering the present a season peculiarly improper for making such a change as that proposed. The distinct spirit and aim of the bill, as acknowledged, was to lower the qualification of members of both Houses of Parliament—to declare that a Jew was equally fitted as a Christian for all the most important functions of legislation. The most rev. prelate proceeded to point out the dangers to religion, and the religious character of Parliament, that would follow the admission of Jews; and he warned their Lordships to pause before assenting to this bill.

The Archbishop of DUBLIN said the question was, whether the electors should be left to decide upon the person to represent them, or whether their hands should be tied up by Parliament. He considered that the electors should be left unfettered to choose whomsoever they pleased. He firmly believed that the existence of disabilities was not a stigma on the Jews, but a stigma on our own religion. He contended that we should either retrace our steps and exclude all who did not conform to the Established Church, or remove this last barrier to the perfect equality of the Jews.

The Bishop of EXETER condemned the bill, as well for the mock principle, which was apparent, and put forward with the hope of catching a few stray votes, as for its real object. He denounced it as a scheme devised to entrap their Lordships unawares to repeal the Bill of Rights, which would be effected by abrogating the oath now in force. The right rev. prelate earnestly entreated their Lordships to reject the bill.

The Earl of SHREWSBURY so far objected to the bill, that, while its principle was to emancipate the Jew, it at the same time would restrict the Roman Catholic. According to its enactments, the Dissenter, the Quaker, or the Jew would be regarded as more trustworthy than the Roman Catholic. Should their Lordships go into committee on the bill, it was his intention to move that the oath proposed to be tendered to Jews, &c., should be extended to Roman Catholics, thus placing all on the same footing. Should the distinction be maintained, he, for one, should refuse to sit on such terms. The noble Earl supported the second reading.

The Earl of WINCHELSEA gave to the bill his strenuous opposition.

The Duke of ARGYLL supported it. He did not think it possible to secure the Christian character of Parliament by any oaths.

The Earl NELSON opposed it.

The Earl of WICKLOW was anxious to admit Jews to Parliament; but he was

more anxious to see the parliamentary oaths altered. Therefore he supported the bill, and felt much satisfied at the manner in which it was framed. He thought that those noble Lords who objected to the Jew clause might vote for the second reading with the view of striking out the objectionable clause in committee.

The Earl of DESART trusted that their Lordships would at once reject the bill, without being influenced by any quibbling idea about altering it in committee. It was to the principle of the bill that he was opposed, and that their Lordships were opposed last year, when they threw out a similar measure.

The Bishop of OXFORD opposed the bill in an eloquent speech. He considered that there was an especial danger at the present time in increasing the money power in the House of Commons, separated from those other influences that modified its action.

Lord BROUGHAM supported the bill.

The Earl of CARLISLE closed the debate, and their Lordships divided:—For the second reading of the bill: contents—present, 70; non-contents—present, 95: majority against the bill, 25.

Proxies were not used on the division. The bill was therefore lost.—Adjourned at a quarter to one o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

THE IRISH POLITICAL CONVICTS.

The House met at noon.

Sir G. GREY, in reply to a question from Sir Lucius O'Brien, stated that cholera having broken out in the vessel intended to convey the Irish state prisoners to their destination, other arrangements had been made for their transport.

Sir LUCIUS O'BRIEN expressed his thanks to the Government for their humanity, and remarked that, though he had voted on some divisions against the Transportation for Treason (Ireland) Bill, he should offer no further opposition to the course of justice, and he sincerely hoped that such occurrences as those which had taken place in Ireland would never be repeated.

POOR RELIEF BILL (IRELAND).

The House went into committee on the Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill, and continued discussing its clauses till four o'clock, when the chairman reported progress, and the House adjourned to half-past five o'clock.

GUIANA.

At the resumed sitting,

Mr. HUME inquired if the Government had received a despatch from British Guiana, containing the information that Governor BARKLY had brought in a bill to change the constitution of the Court of Policy, by extending the suffrage; and if the governor had the power so to change the constitution of the Court of Policy?

Lord J. RUSSELL answered that it was true that Governor BARKLY had, following the example of other persons at home, brought in a bill for the extension of the suffrage in British Guiana; but he could not say, without taking time for consideration, whether the governor had the power so to change the constitution of the Court of Policy.

Mr. MACKINNON gave notice that he would on Tuesday draw attention to the report of the committee on Smithfield Market.

COLONIAL GOVERNMENT.

Sir W. MOLESWORTH moved that an address be presented to her Majesty praying for the appointment of a commission to inquire into the administration of her Majesty's colonial possessions, with the view to removing the causes of colonial complaint, of diminishing the cost of colonial government, and of giving free scope to individual enterprise in the business of colonising.

Mr. HUME seconded the motion.

Mr. HAWES regarded the plan shadowed forth in the hon. baronet's speech as impracticable and delusive, and calculated to excite expectations in the colonies that would be disappointed. The hon. Under-Secretary opposed the motion.

Mr. GLADSTONE thought that the time had come when something in furtherance of the course of policy recommended by Sir W. Molesworth should be attempted. The right hon. gentleman supported the motion.

Mr. LABOUCHERE opposed the motion.

Mr. ADDERLEY and Mr. F. SCOTT spoke in favour of it.

Lord J. RUSSELL said that such a commission to enquire into so many and different details would be impracticable. He could not consent to it.

The House divided—For the motion, 89; against it, 163: majority against the motion, 74.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the Act for the more easy Recovery of Small Debts and Demands in England, and to abolish certain inferior courts of record.

Adjourned at a few minutes past one o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The House assembled at noon, and sat till six o'clock.

NEW WRIT FOR LONDON.

A new writ was, on the motion of Mr. J. A. SMITH, ordered to be issued for the City of London, in the room of Baron Rothschild, who has accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.

PRISON DISCIPLINE.

The adjourned debate on Mr. C. PEARSON's motion for leave to bring in a bill for the reform of prison discipline was resumed by Mr. BROTHERTON.

Sir H. HALFORD enforced the utility of the separate system. The honourable Baronet moved, as an amendment, that a select committee be appointed to inquire into the prison discipline of England and Wales.

Mr. Frewen, Mr. Alderman Sidney, Lord Mahon, Mr. B. Denison, Mr. Harris, Mr. R. Palmer, Sir G. Grey, and several other members addressed the House.

Mr. PEARSON's motion, and Sir H. HALFORD's amendment, were ultimately withdrawn.

INSOLVENT MEMBERS.

On the motion of Mr. MORFATT, the House went into Committee on the Bankrupt and Insolvent Members Bill.

Mr. WYNN pointed out the dangerous course the House was pursuing in this matter, by proceeding by bill instead of resolution. If they sought to attain the object in view by means of a bill, they would submit their privilege to the House of Lords; and should they afterwards desire to alter the rule, they could not do so without the assent of the other branch of the Legislature. The right hon. gentleman suggested, that, should the House resolve to proceed at all, it should proceed by resolution.

Mr. LAW supported this suggestion, and, in order to give time to Mr. Morfatt to make up his mind and frame a resolution in accordance with his desire, moved that the Chairman report progress.

After a short conversation, progress was reported.

Mr. FREWEN moved the second reading of the Benefices in Plurality Bill, with the view to have it amended.

Sir G. GREY recommended the withdrawal of the bill and the introduction of a new one, as the more usual and convenient course.

Mr. FREWEN adopted that advice, and withdrew the bill.

On the motion of Mr. BAINES, the General and Quarter Sessions Bill went through committee, with amendments.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

ILLNESS OF THE LORD CHANCELLOR.

Lord BROUGHAM, in moving that certain returns be made from the Court of Chancery, declared that no possible inconveniences had arisen, or could arise, from the absence of the Lord Chancellor; and he hoped that his noble and learned friend would not go out one day sooner than he felt himself equal to do so. He remembered that, on one occasion, Lord Eldon had been absent for three months.

Lord LANGDALE could not agree in opinion with his noble and learned friend that no inconvenience had arisen from the absence of the Lord Chancellor; but he suggested that during the short absence of the Lord Chancellor a commission might be issued to perform temporarily the functions of the Great Seal.

Lord CAMPBELL said that in former times nothing was more common than for the Lord Chancellor during his absence abroad, or during his indisposition, to hand over the seal to a Vice-Chancellor, who performed the functions of his office.

The subject then dropped.

FRENCH EXPEDITION AGAINST ROME.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE, in reply to the Earl of Aberdeen and Lord Stanley, stated that her Majesty's Government had not asked for or received from the French Government any information as to their future course towards Rome, or any explanation of the grounds on which they based their proceedings of siege and bombardment.

The Incumbered Estates (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

Mr. OSBORNE said a return had been laid on the table of the House, by which it would appear that, instead of the estimate of the expenses necessary for completing the New Houses of Parliament being £707,104, the probable expense of completing them was now given as two millions and a half. He begged to ask whether that sum of two millions and a half included the new ventilation, and furnishing, and fitting-up of the House of Commons, and the Speaker's and clerks' houses; and whether it included the expense of the new gallery about to be erected in the House of Lords?

Mr. GREENE said the estimate did not include the new gallery in the House of Lords; but he understood the whole of the return in question included all the other matters to which the hon. member adverted. There was a sum of about £5000, he thought, for machinery, which was not included.

Mr. OSBORNE asked if he was to understand if the furnishing was included. Mr. GREENE replied that it included the furnishing of the House and of the Committee-rooms.

Mr. OSBORNE, seeing now the noble Lord at the head of the Government in his place, would ask him when he would bring this estimate on for the consideration of Parliament.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL said he would bring it on in the week after next.

POOR RELIEF (IRELAND) BILL.

The House having gone into committee on this bill, was engaged the rest of the evening in discussing the various clauses.]

Adjourned.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

MILITARY COMMAND IN CANADA.—In consequence of the lamented death of Sir Benjamin D'Urban, G.C.B., late Commander of the Forces in Canada, the opportunity has been taken to reduce the military expenditure in British North America. The command has been divided, and the highly paid rank of Commander of the Forces abolished. Lieut.-General Sir John Harvey will command the troops in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, receiving no additional pay, as he holds also the situation of Civil Governor of Nova Scotia. Major-General Rowan will receive the local rank of Lieut.-General on the Staff, and succeed to the command in the Canadas. The effect of these arrangements will be a saving of the difference between the pay of Commander of the Forces and a Lieutenant-General on the Staff, and a reduction entirely of a Lieutenant-General, with all his staff, as soon as these arrangements take effect, making a saving to the public of nearly £3000 a year.

ROYAL ARSENAL, WOOLWICH.—The public will learn with satisfaction that the restriction which was made of admission to view the grounds of the Royal Arsenal, on the announcement of the meeting of the Chartists on Kennington-common, on the 10th of April, 1848, was removed last week; and visitors to Woolwich will now be allowed to go over the grounds on giving their names at the gate, where they will receive a card specifying the number of their party, and pointing out the best mode of going over this extensive naval and military depot, without interfering with the duties of the persons in her Majesty's employment and on the public service.

PARLIAMENTARY PORTRAITS.

MR. ROUNDELL PALMER.

The House of Commons does not number amongst its professional members one who brings to the discussion of Parliamentary questions a clearer or more enlightened intellect than the hon. and learned gentleman who sits for Plymouth.—Mr. R. Palmer.

He is not a very frequent speaker, though few measures of real importance are disposed of without eliciting a full and explicit expression of opinion from him; and on these occasions he seldom fails to sustain the reputation for distinguished talent which he well earned during his collegiate career. He received his early education at Winchester, and subsequently entered Oxford University, where he became a Scholar of Trinity College, and afterwards a Fellow of Magdalen College. He obtained first-class honours in classics, the Chancellor's prizes for Latin verse and Latin essay, Newdegate's prize for English verse, Dean Ireland's Scholarship, and the Eldon Law Scholarship. In 1837 he was called to the bar at Lincoln's Inn.

He was first returned to Parliament in 1847, for Plymouth, and is thus one of the junior members of the House. Short, however, as his legislative career has hitherto been, it has been sufficient to warrant large expectations for the future from him in that respect. One of the most successful efforts which he has as yet made in addressing the House was on a recent occasion when Mr. Stuart Wortley's bill to legalise marriage with a deceased wife's sister was under discussion, a few weeks back. Mr. Palmer spoke against the bill. He reviewed the whole question in a religious, historical, and social point of view; and, in a speech of nearly three hours' duration, he elicited the admiration of the House, as well by the great research and learning which he displayed in matters pertaining to ecclesiastical and civil law, and the usage of the primitive Christians, as by the close logic and force of reasoning with which he combated the supporters of the measure, and sustained his own position of opposition to it. It is to be regretted that, owing to its great length, and the late hour at which it was delivered, the speech was not fully reported. From an extract or two, however, it may be seen what the character of it was. Referring to the Scriptural argument on the subject, he said:—"The Jewish authority had been called in to settle the question, but in the New Testament they received a warning against receiving the glosses of the Jews upon their own law. Therefore, Christian men could not govern themselves by Jewish traditions in opposition to the universal opinion which had prevailed in the Christian church; and the marriages now in question had never been mentioned except to be reprobated in canons, by councils, and by individual fathers of the church. In the fourth century, St. Basil, being written to on the subject, was struck with horror at having the question put to him. The traditions of the Christian church were all consistent on the subject, it having been always held that the marriage with the wife's sister was prohibited by the law of God. One main difficulty in dealing with the argument derived from ecclesiastical history on this subject arose out of the circumstance that the early church incorporated among the Levitical prohibitions many which went further, and which, according to the agreement of all, were not at present binding; but Thomas Aquinas, the divines, and the Popes, drew the line between the Levitical degrees and those beyond them, holding the first to be divine and the other merely ecclesiastical, and that the power of dispensation did not apply to the former, which included the wife's sister."

His concluding remarks were directed to the social inconvenience likely to result from the adoption of the measure:—"To place a sister-in-law in the same position as a first cousin would, he contended, be a cruel privation. There were many men who could entertain no desire to marry a wife's sister; and, taking into account the vast disproportion between them and those who did feel such a desire, he repeated that no cruelty could be greater than that estrangement between those near relations which must be the necessary consequence of the possibility of their marriage. Their first cousins would not do it now, unless they had reached an age which would put all such considerations out of the case. The effect of their law would be to put sisters-in-law in the same situation as first cousins, and thus prevent that pleasant domestic intercourse with them which now existed. He entreated the House to give effect to these objections, objections entertained upon such strong grounds, and corroborated by all the experience and authority of the Christian church—to respect the feelings and wishes of the women of England, 11,000 of whom had petitioned the Queen not to assent to this bill, and who now implored them not to violate the purity of domestic religion and the sanctity of their homes."

Mr. Roundell Palmer is the second son of the Rev. William Jocelyn Palmer, of Mixbury, in Oxfordshire, by a daughter of the late Rev. William Roundell, of Gledstone, in Yorkshire. He was born at Mixbury, in 1812, and married last year the Lady Laura, second daughter of Earl Waldegrave. In politics the hon. and learned gentleman is a "Liberal Conservative;" he is in favour of the extension of Free Trade, and is opposed to the endowment of the Roman Catholic Clergy.

BOLSOVER CASTLE.

This fine old place has just been the scene of great festivity, to celebrate the birthday of his Grace the Duke of Portland, who, on the 24th inst., attained his 81st year.

Bolsover is a populous village on the eastern verge of Derbyshire, upon the county of Nottingham, and a short distance from Chesterfield. The Castle occupies the plain of a rocky hill that rises abruptly from the meadows. The building is of great extent, and, from its elevated situation, is a landmark for the surrounding country.

Bolsover has been the site of a castle from the date of the Conquest; but all traces of the Norman structure have long since disappeared. At the Domesday Survey it belonged to William Peveril, Lord of Derbyshire, in whose family it remained for three generations. King John, when Earl of Moreton, became the possessor of Bolsover; but, during his continuation with Longchamp, Bishop of Ely, it became the property of that prelate. Subsequently it again reverted to John, who, in the eighteenth year of his reign, issued a mandate to Bryan de l'Isle, the then governor of Bolsover, to fortify the Castle, and hold it against the rebellious barons; or, if he could not make it tenable, to demolish it. This, no doubt, was the period when the fortifications, which are yet visible about Bolsover, were established.

In the long and tumultuous reign of Henry III. this Castle still retained its consequence. William Earl Ferrars had the government of it for six years: afterwards it had eleven different governors in twice that term. In the reign of Henry VIII. it was the property of Thomas Howard, the first Duke of Norfolk. On the attainder of his son, the Castle escheated to the Crown. Shortly afterwards it was granted to Sir John Byron for fifty years. In the reign of James I., Gilbert Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, was the owner of Bolsover. In the year 1613 he sold it to Sir Charles Cavendish, whose eldest son, William, was the first Duke of Newcastle, a personage of great eminence among the nobility of his time, and in high favour at court. He was sincerely attached to his Royal master, King Charles the First, whom he entertained at Bolsover Castle on three different occasions, in a style of princely magnificence. On the King's second visit here, where he was accompanied by his Queen, upwards of £15,000 were expended. The Duchess of Newcastle, in her life of the Duke, her husband, says: "The Earl employed Ben Jonson in fitting up such scenes and speeches as he could devise; and sent for all the country to come and wait on their Majesties; and, in short, did all that even he could imagine to render it great and worthy of their Royal acceptance." It was this nobleman who erected the edifice which is now in ruins. The place was seized by the Parliament after the Duke went abroad, and was sold and begun to be pulled down, but was then bought by Sir Charles, the Duke's youngest brother, and so restored to the family.

The present Castle was built at different periods. The north-east end, which was erected by Sir Charles Cavendish, about the year 1613, is the oldest. The interior of this portion is uncomfortably arranged. The rooms are small, and the walls are wainscoted, and fancifully inlaid and painted. The ceilings of the best apartments are carved and gilt, and nearly the whole of the floors are coated with plaster. There is a small hall, the roof of which is supported by pillars; and a star-chamber, richly carved and gilt. The only comfortable apartment, according to Mr. Rhodes, is now called the drawing-room, but was formerly the pillar-parlour, from its having in the centre a stone column, from which springs an arched ceiling. From the roof of this building, to which the ascent is by winding stairs, the view extends "till all the stretching landscape into mist decays."

Hitherto we have spoken but of that part of Bolsover Castle which was formerly denominated the Little House, to distinguish it from the more magnificent structure adjoining. This immense fabric, whose walls are now rudeness and rent into fissures, was built by William, the first Duke of Newcastle, in the course of the reign of Charles II., but is said never to have been entirely finished. The interior walls are but bare stones; the door and window cases, and the different apartments, are of unusually large dimensions, the principal remaining apartment being 220 feet by 28. The entire western part, including the Little House at the northern extremity, extends about 150 yards.

The best point of view, or north-west, is represented in the Engraving; short distance hence lies the village of Bolsover.



MARBLE STATUE OF THE REV. JOHN WESLEY, AT THE THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTION, RICHMOND.

MARBLE STATUE OF THE REV. JOHN WESLEY.

This fine work was modelled by the late Mr. Samuel Manning; and the commission for its execution in marble was given, some years since, by Mr. Butterworth, M.P. It was not, however, then carried into effect; but the Statue has since been sculptured in marble by the grandson of Mr. Manning; and on the 14th instant, it was placed, with a religious service, in the noble building of the Theological Institution, at Richmond, Surrey. The Rev. Robert Newton, D.D., President of the Conference, presided, having on his right the Secretary of the Conference; Mr. Manning, the sculptor of the Statue; and the Rev. Joseph Sutcliffe: and on his left, the Rev. Dr. Bunting, the Rev. Dr. Reece, and Thomas Farmer, Esq., by whom the Statue has been presented to the Connexion. The report of the service occupies five columns of the *Watchman*; and was closed by the President tendering to Mr. Farmer the thanks of the meeting for his munificent present of the Statue to the Institution and Methodism at large.

The Statue, as we have stated, was modelled by the late Mr. Samuel Manning. When exhibited at the Royal Academy, it was asserted by Henry Howard, Esq., R.A., that its own merits, as a work of art, had gained it a central position amongst the sculpture exhibited that year. The model attracted many visitors to the studio, and amongst them the late Joseph Butterworth, Esq., M.P. for

Dover. In the year 1828, he commissioned Mr. Manning to execute the work in marble, at the price of 1000 guineas. A block of marble was purchased for this purpose, but the decease of Mr. Butterworth induced Mr. Manning to suspend the work; and the marble was used for the beautiful monument to the memory of the late Charles Grant, Esq., M.P., erected in Bloomsbury Church.

In June, 1829, proposals for the completion of the statue, and its erection in the Committee-room of the Mission House, Hatton-garden, were drawn out by Mr. Manning, and laid by the Rev. George Morley before the Committee of the Wesleyan Missionary Society; and, in the same year, he offered the marble statue to the Connexion on very liberal terms, which were with equal liberality and good feeling accepted by the Conference. But, unfortunately, this transaction was accidentally omitted to be inserted amongst the minutes, and the work was again suspended, with the intention of bringing it before the Conference of another year. In the meantime, a site was requested for the marble in Westminster Abbey; but the Rev. Dr. Ireland, Dean of Westminster, at that time refused, on account of what he called the factious character of Mr. Wesley. The subject of the situation then became an obstacle, and years were allowed to pass away, until Mr. Manning's decline of health and decease.

The late John Manning, Esq., then offered his grandson, the present Samuel Manning, sculptor (and successor to his father, Samuel Manning, Esq., and to John Bacon, Esq.), the sum of 500 guineas to proceed with the work, with the view of another gentleman joining in presenting the statue to the Connexion. The marble was purchased for the purpose, but, before a chisel could be put to it, that able and liberal artist died, aged 93. The work has since been executed by Mr. Manning. It is of exquisitely pure marble, and is placed upon a pedestal of Peterhead granite; the weight of the statue with the pedestal being between three and four tons. The attitude is well chosen and expressive, and the drapery well arranged. Extraordinary pains have been taken, and with perfect success, to ensure in this statue a good likeness of the excellent Wesley. Dr. Adam Clarke (who knew Wesley for several years), in 1830, bore the following testimony to the fidelity of Mr. Manning's model—the original being a bust, for which Wesley sat five times to Mr. Wood, of Burslem, and which was cast in brass by Mr. Forshaw, of Liverpool, under the eye of the late John Jackson, R.A. Dr. Adam Clarke says:—

"The noble appearance of Mr. Wesley's face I see in the terra-cotta of Mr. Wood, exactly transformed from it to the clay and afterwards to the selenite of Mr. Manning, and in the brass cast by John Forshaw, Esq., and chased up to nature under the eye of John Jackson, R.A. I see also in Mr. Manning's work the whole length with its exact proportions and drapery, his commanding attitude, his attractive expression—in a word, his mind and his manner, as his friends now remaining long beheld, and rejoiced in him; and as those who have only seen him in his works may not be a little glad to know, on the faith of those who have seen him and could judge.

"This statue is a perfect likeness of John Wesley, and was declared to be so by Mr. Wesley himself in the original bust from which this was correctly taken." Mr. Jackson's description of Wesley's person will be read with interest in connexion with Mr. Manning's statue:—

"The figure of Mr. Wesley was remarkable. His stature was low; his habit of body, in every period of life, the reverse of corpulent, and expressive of strict temperance and continual exercise; and, notwithstanding his small size, his step was firm, and his appearance, till within a few years of his death, vigorous and muscular. His face, for an old man, was one of the finest we have seen. A clear, smooth forehead, an aquiline nose, an eye the brightest and most piercing that can be conceived, and a freshness of complexion scarcely ever to be found at his years, and impressive of the most perfect health, conspired to render him a venerable and interesting figure. Few have seen him without being struck with his appearance; and many who had been greatly prejudiced against him, have been known to change their opinion the moment they were introduced into his presence. In his countenance and demeanour there was a cheerfulness mingled with gravity; a sprightliness, which was the natural result of an unusual flow of spirits, and yet was accompanied with every mark of the most serene tranquillity. His aspect, particularly in profile, had a strong character of acuteness and penetration. In dress, he was the pattern of neatness and simplicity. A narrow plaited stock; a coat with a small upright collar; no buckles at his knees; no silk or velvet in any part of his apparel; and a head as white as snow, gave an idea of something primitive and



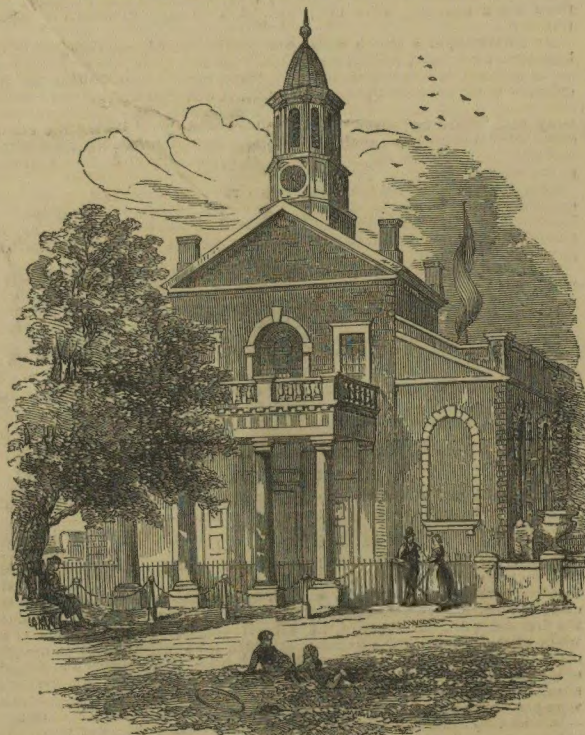
MR. ROUNDELL PALMER, M.P. FOR PLYMOUTH.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

apostolic; while an air of neatness and cleanliness was diffused over his whole person."

KEW CHURCH.

The advowson of Kew was anciently attached to that of Kingston; but divine service was performed here in a small chapel (originally a private one), which was licensed as early as 1522: it was separated from Kingston, and constituted a distinct vicarage, in 1769.

The present Church stands on the open area of Kew Green, on a plot of ground granted by Queen Anne. It was built by subscription, headed by the Queen, and was completed and consecrated as "the Chapel of St. Anne, of Kew Green," on the 12th of May, 1714. It then consisted of little more than a nave and north aisle, with a school-room on the south; and, after several alterations, as the population increased, its character was completely changed in the years 1837 and 1838; when it was enlarged into its present state, under the direction of Sir Jeffrey Wyattville. "This was accomplished," says the "New History of Surrey," "through the considerate munificence of his late Majesty, William the Fourth, who, on his



KEW CHURCH.

last visit to Kew, in April, 1837, had the plans and estimates prepared by the architect submitted to him for approval; and after his decease, on the 20th of June following, the requisite funds (amounting to nearly five thousand pounds) were found to have been scrupulously set apart by the King for the completion of the work. In reference to his intentions, the following inscription, dictated by himself, and engraved on brass, has been affixed to the front of the Royal gallery:—

King William the Fourth, in the year 1836, directed 200 free seats to be provided in this Church at his expense, for the accommodation of the poor of the parish, and of the children of the King's Free-School; to be for ever appropriated to their use. Rev. R. B. Byam, A.M. Vicar. Edward Scard, Churchwarden.

"This is a brick building, of which the dressings are more vivid than the other parts. At the east end is a portico of the Doric order, with three entrances and balustrades above; and from the roof springs an octagonal clock-turret, with one bell. The interior is arranged and fitted up in a style of much simplicity and elegance; and the monuments are affixed against the end and side walls in a regular manner. There are no aisles, except what arise from the disposition of the seats and pewing, which are grained oak, and very neat. The roof, which is waggon-shaped, is supported on each side by three Doric columns, and at the ends by pilasters. The altar-recess is ornamented by Corinthian pilasters, and tables of the Lord's Prayer, Creed, and Commandments, in white and gold; and in a recess beyond (constructed for its reception) is a small richly-toned organ, which is said to have belonged to Handel, and was a favourite instrument of his Majesty George the Third, by whose successor (George the Fourth) it was presented to the Church in 1823."

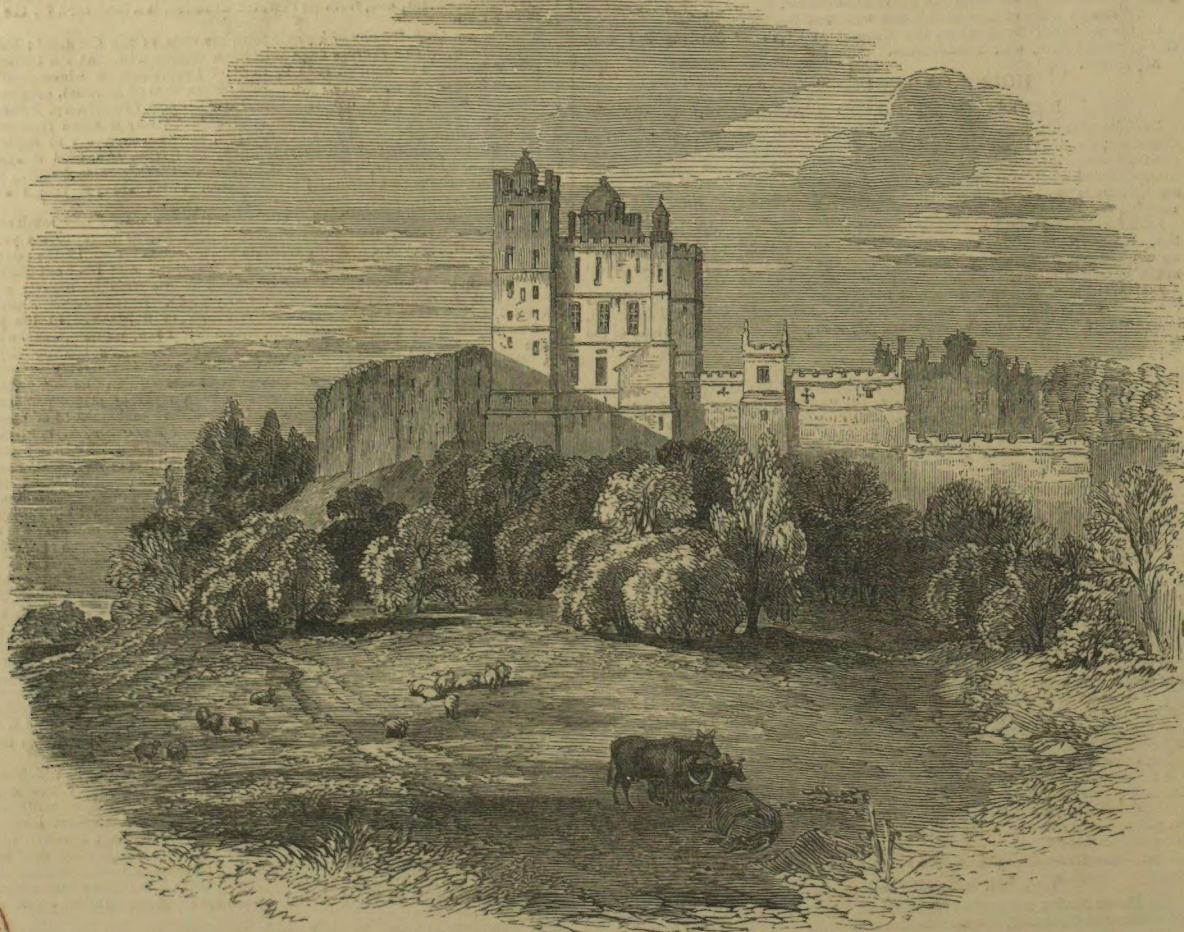
The walls bear several very interesting monuments. Among them is a tablet, with a white marble medallion bust of Jeremiah Meyer, R.A., painter in miniature and enamel to George III.; the epitaph is an elegant poetical composition, written by Hayley.

The Royal gallery, at the western end of the Church, contains seats for about sixty persons. In front, besides the inscription already given, are the arms of William the Fourth, and several small attachments of Royalty. This gallery was originally constructed at the expense of George III., in 1805; and on the reopening for divine service, the King, the Queen, and nine Princes and Princesses (their offspring), were present.

The churchyard, which is merely separated from the Green by a dwarf wall, is crowded with tombs. Here, in kindred graves, lie Meyer, Zoffany, and Gainsborough, the painters—the latter one of the founders of the English School. Here, too, rest Joshua Kirby, the architect; William Aiton, the gardener; Francis Bauer, the microscopist, &c.

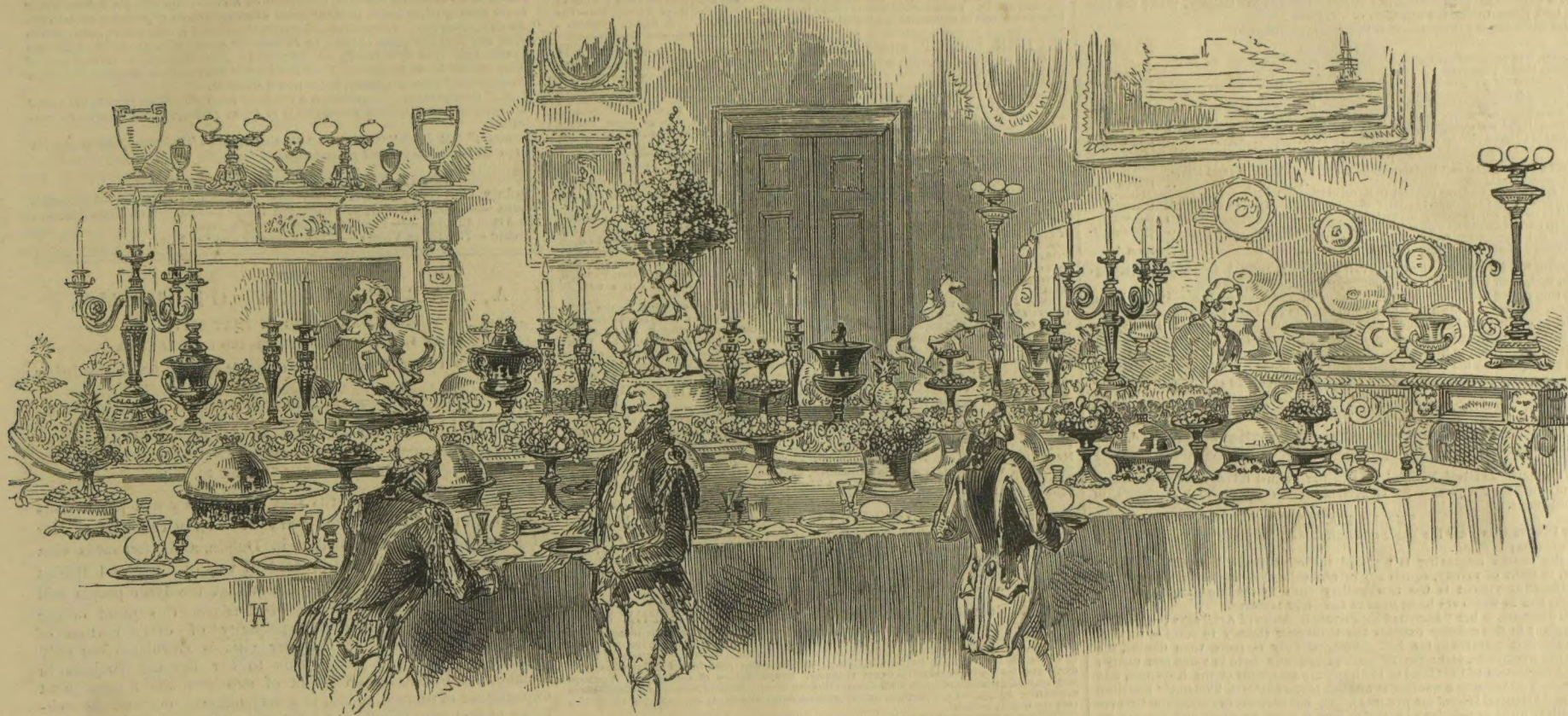
Among the larger mansions surrounding Kew-green, are those of the King of Hanover and the Duke of Cambridge. On the grounds of the former, on the north side of the Green, Sir Peter Lely had a copyhold house.

Photography was discovered here; for, according to the "New History of Surrey," "M. Niepce, sen., the original discoverer of the photographic art, afterwards advanced to perfection (but by entirely new processes, and under different views), by Daguerre, and thence called the 'Daguerreotype,' resided at Kew in 1827; and in the month of December, in that year, he submitted a paper on the result of his experiments, with several sketches on metal, to the Royal Society, by the intervention of Mr. Bauer. His communications, however, made but little impression at the time upon that learned body."



BOLSOVER CASTLE, NEAR CHESTERFIELD.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

ROYAL VISIT TO THE MARQUIS OF WESTMINSTER.



THE DINNER-TABLE, AND PLATE-BUFFET.

On Wednesday, her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by the Queen of the Belgians and a brilliant suite, honoured the Marquis and Marchioness of Westminster with their presence at Grosvenor House.

The hospitalities of the noble Marquis and Marchioness commenced with a grand banquet, which was succeeded by a concert, in which most of the leading Italian artists took part. The guests invited to meet her Majesty at dinner were the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Duke and Duchess of Norfolk, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl Spencer, the Viscount Hardinge, Lord Robert Grosvenor, the Hon. Belby and Lady Elizabeth Lawley, the Hon. W. H. and Lady Caroline Leigh, and the Earl Grosvenor.

The noble Marquis and Marchioness, with the Ladies Elizabeth Lawley and Caroline Leigh, and the Earl Grosvenor, were in attendance, and, with the Duke of Norfolk, as Master of the Horse, awaited her Majesty's arrival.

The Royal carriages entered the court-yard at five minutes after eight o'clock, when the band of the Royal Horse Guards played a few bars of the National Anthem.

On the Queen alighting, the noble Marchioness received her Majesty with a profound obeisance, which the Queen acknowledged by saluting her ladyship very affectionately. The Queen of the Belgians was similarly welcomed by the noble Marchioness, after which the august party passed into the drawing-room, where the guests honoured with invitations to meet the Sovereign had assembled.

At a quarter-past eight o'clock, dinner was announced, when, the Queen having taken the arm of Lord Westminster, the august party proceeded to the banquetting-room. This apartment presented a magnificent appearance. On a buffet at one end of the room was displayed the superb collection of family gold plate, including a variety of antique salvers of great value, and a profusion of race cups, trophies of the Lord Westminster's celebrated stud. Along the centre of the table was a magnificent plateau of silver gilt, on which were placed gold vases filled with flowers intermixed with race groups in silver.

Her Majesty occupied a seat in the centre of the table, having the Archbishop of Canterbury upon her right, and the Marquis of Westminster upon her left hand. His Royal Highness Prince Albert faced her Majesty, having the Queen of the Belgians and the Marchioness of Westminster respectively upon his right and left.

The banquet was of the most superb description. The dessert was especially remarkable for its choiceness and rarity; and among the fruits on the table were four splendid pines, averaging 10 lb. weight each—a present to the noble Marquis from the Duke of Devonshire, and grown at Chatsworth.

During dinner the band of the Royal Horse Guards played a selection of music.

After the banquet, the noble Marquis gave "The health of her Majesty the Queen."

The toast having been drunk by the guests upstanding, in silence, her Majesty bowed her acknowledgments, and the band played a few bars of the National Anthem.

The noble Marquis next gave "The health of his Royal Highness the Prince

Albert," which was similarly honoured, and followed by the band playing "Prince Albert's March."

The noble Marquis gave, lastly, "The health of her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians," which was duly responded to, and succeeded by the band playing the Belgian National Hymn.

Her Majesty and the Queen of the Belgians and the other ladies of the party here left the banquetting-room for the saloon, where tea and coffee were served.

At half-past nine o'clock the company invited to the concert began to arrive.

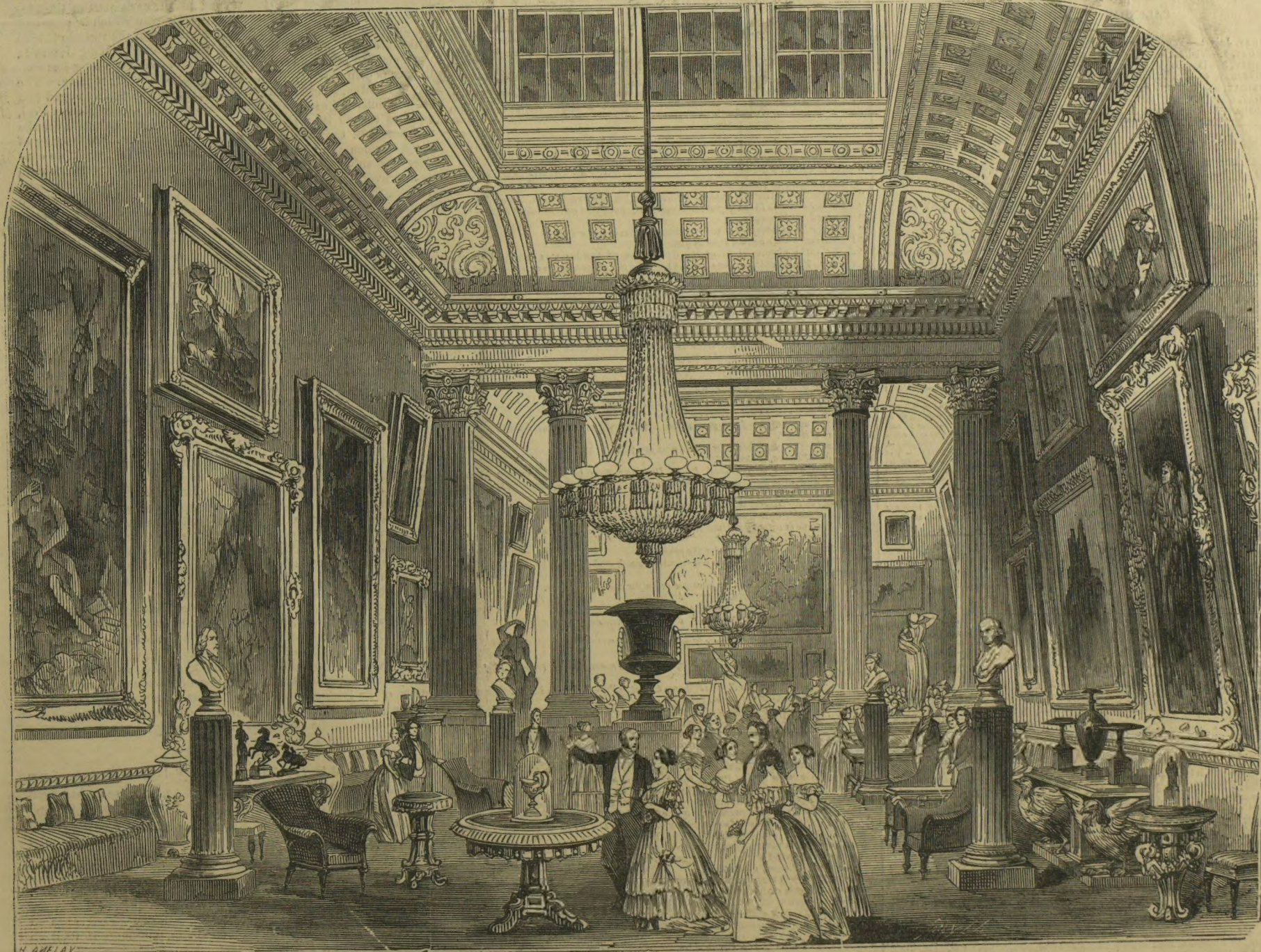
Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester came attended by Lady Georgiana Bathurst, Lord James Murray, and Colonel the Hon. H. T. Liddell.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and the Hereditary Grand Duchess of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz followed their illustrious relative, attended by Lady Augusta Cadogan and Mr. E. St. John Mildmay.

His Grace the Duke of Wellington arrived before ten o'clock, and, with the members of the Royal family, was conducted to the saloon, in which her Majesty and the Queen of the Belgians remained.

The general company, on their arrival, were conducted to the Gallery.

Among those honoured with invitations were the Prince de Schöenberg, the Prince Richard Metternich, the Princess Grassalkovich (née Princess Esterhazy), his Excellency the Turkish Ambassador and suite, his Excellency the Russian Minister, the Baroness Brunnov and Mdlle. Olga de Lechner, his Excellency the Belgian Minister and Madame Van de Weyer, his Excellency the Austrian Minister and the Countess Coloredo, his Excellency the Hanoverian Minister, his Excellency the Minister for the Netherlands and Mdlle. de Schimmelpenninck, his Excellency the Bavarian Minister and the Baroness de Cetto, his Excellency



THE GROSVENOR GALLERY.

ANCONA, besieged by the Austrians, has yielded to superior force after a long and obstinate resistance. Rome, it is said, has been entered by the French, with results which the telegraphic despatches have not yet made known to the world. Every one is now inquiring, supposing the French to be in possession of Rome, what are to be the next steps in the affairs of Italy? M. de Tocqueville, in the name of the French Government, has declared, in an eloquent speech, that the policy of France is peace with all the world. The awkward subject of Rome was scrupulously avoided by that Minister, yet it is to be presumed that peace, even in Italy, is the real object of the Government, although it took an extraordinary and a disgraceful method to bring it about. But we are at a loss to know, or even to imagine, how any peace established by such agencies can be maintained. The Papacy is virtually defunct, in spite of the stupid blundering of M. Odillon

Barrot to restore it; and the Italian question will not be one iota nearer to a practical and permanent conclusion, than it was a month ago, by the occupation or destruction of that city.

The Pope himself is ashamed of his French allies, and will hesitate to return to Rome under their protection. Perhaps, however, when French "honour" is satisfied by the temporary occupation and partial destruction of the most famous city in the world, the French troops will be ordered home, and the only parties really interested in the affairs of Rome and of Italy will be allowed to manage their own business. It would be idle to speculate as to the turn affairs will then take; but it is quite clear, whatever it may be, that it will be better for the French character and honour, and more likely to lead to satisfactory results for all parties, than the wicked siege of Rome under the auspices of a Government professing liberty and violating it openly, and preaching peace while waging the most disgraceful war recorded in modern history.

COURT AND HAUT TON.

THE COURT AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

The Queen and the Prince Consort, and the Court, attended divine service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace, on Sunday morning. The Bishop of London preached the sermon.

On Monday, Prince Albert inspected the Honourable Artillery Company, and afterwards rode out on horseback with her Majesty.

On Tuesday, the Prince Consort, attended by Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. C. B. Phipps and Colonel Bouvier, inspected the troops in Hyde-park; and afterwards, together with the Queen, the Queen of the Belgians, the Prince of Wales, and the Princess Alice, took a drive in an open carriage and four, Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. C. B. Phipps attending on horseback. In the evening, the Queen and Prince Albert, and her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians, honoured the Haymarket Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday Prince Albert attended the review of the 11th Hussars on Wimbledon Common. Her Majesty the Queen and the Queen of the Belgians took a drive on the same afternoon in an open carriage and four. In the evening the Court honoured the Marquis and Marchioness of Westminster with their presence at Grosvenor House.

The Queen of the Belgians took leave of her Majesty and the Prince Consort on Thursday, and left town for St. Leonard's, on a visit to her illustrious parents, the Count and Countess de Neully.

The Queen held a privy council yesterday, at Buckingham Palace.

The Countess of Mount Edgcombe has succeeded the Countess of Desart as Lady in Waiting to the Queen; and Lord Waterpark has relieved Lord Camoys in the duties of Lord in Waiting to her Majesty.

ROYAL VISIT TO TUNBRIDGE-WELLS.

The Queen and the Prince Consort paid a visit to her Majesty the Queen Dowager, at the Calverley Hotel, Tunbridge-Wells, on Saturday last. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness travelled from town by a special train on the South-Eastern Railway; and on arriving at Tunbridge-Wells, were received by Earl Howe, Lord Chamberlain, and Captain Somerset, one of the Equerries to the Queen Dowager, by whom the Royal party were conducted to the Calverley Hotel. Her Majesty and the Queen Dowager subsequently took a carriage airing in an open pony phaeton, accompanied by Prince Albert. After proceeding through Calverley Park into the Wells, the Royal party passed over Mount Ephraim and crossed Renthall Common to the High Rocks. These localities were all perfectly familiar to the Queen, and her Majesty appeared much delighted at revisiting the scenes of her childhood. From the High Rocks the Royal party drove across the Forest to the Erridge-road, and upon their return called at Mr. Nye's Tunbridge repository, where her Majesty inspected the manufactures in the show-room, and made several purchases for the Royal children. Their Majesties returned to the Calverley at six o'clock; and the Queen and the Prince having taken leave of their illustrious relative, arrived in town shortly after seven o'clock.

The Calverley Hotel stands on the site and forms part of the mansion formerly inhabited by the Duchess of Kent, and then called Calverley House. The rooms occupied by the Queen, when Princess Victoria, are still preserved, and have lately formed a portion of the Royal suite of apartments. The magnificent heraldic lantern from Stowe is suspended in the entrance-hall of this establishment.

VISIT OF HER MAJESTY TO IRELAND.—It is announced that the Queen purposes, this autumn, to visit Ireland, previous to her Majesty going to Scotland. The Royal yacht will first touch at the Cove of Cork, and thence proceed along the coast to Dublin, where her Majesty will stay for some days.

Her Majesty the Queen honoured the Duchess of Gloucester with her presence at a grand ball, given by her Royal Highness, at Gloucester House, on Friday.

THE QUEEN OF THE BELGIANS.—Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians arrived at Dover from Ostend on Monday, by the Government mail steamer, attended by the Comtesse Van der Straten and the Baron de Moerkerke. Her Majesty and suite proceeded by railway, and arrived in London at four o'clock, and proceeded thence to Buckingham Palace.

THE QUEEN DOWAGER.—Her Majesty the Queen Dowager, attended by the Earl and Countess Howe and suite, left the Calverley Hotel, Tunbridge Wells, on Thursday, and proceeded *via* the South-Eastern Railway to Croydon, whence her Majesty crossed to Bushey Park.

The Duchess of Orleans, accompanied by the Comte de Paris, and attended by the Prince de Joinville, arrived in town yesterday, from Rotterdam.

The Prince and Princess Doria Pamphili, with their family and suite, arrived at Mivart's Hotel, from the Continent, on Monday evening. The Prince and Princess have since been joined by the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury.

We regret exceedingly to announce that the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland have sustained a severe domestic affliction by the sudden demise of their youngest daughter, the Lady Alexandrina Leveson Gower. The deceased child was taken ill in the course of Thursday morning (the day after the nuptials of the Marquis of Stafford and Miss Hay Mackenzie), never afterwards rallied, and died within a few hours.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

OXFORD.

The subject of the English poem to which the prize will be adjudged in 1851 is St. Paul at Athens. Candidates must be members of the University, and must have taken their B.A. degree at the time when the subject is announced. The compositions must be not less than 60 nor more than 300 lines.

Mrs. Denyon's Theological Prize: The subjects for the year 1850 are—"The Divinity of our Blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ," and "True Faith must be accompanied with Good Works."

Dr. Ellerton's Theological Prize for 1850:—"The Fitness of the Times in which the Promises of a Messiah were severally given."

N. W. W. Andrews, of St. John's College, has been elected to the Pusey and Ellerton Hebrew Scholarship.

Dr. Ellerton's Theological Prize Essay on "The Nature and Object of Types" has been awarded to Mr. Stephen Edwards, of Merton College.

CAMBRIDGE.

TRINITY HALL.—This Society has lately come into possession of some property bequeathed by the late H. Goodbehere, Esq. The estate is for the maintenance of a Divinity Fellow and two Scholars. It is intended by the College to include the living of St. Edward's Parish, Cambridge, with the Fellowship. The election will take place on the 23rd of December.

DURHAM.

The Principal of Bishop Hatfield's Hall and George Butler, M.A., are nominated to be Proctors; and the Professor of Mathematics is nominated to the office of Sub-Warden, for the ensuing academical year.

The following prizes have been assigned:—The Bishop of Durham's, for Hebrew and Hellenistic Greek, to F. W. Russell, B.A.; The Junior Hebrew Prize, to Joseph Bennett, B.A., both of University College. The Bishop of Durham, for Mathematics, to R. H. Blakey, of Bishop Hatfield's Hall.

PREFERMENTS.—Rev. A. A. Baker to St. Michael-at-Thorne, P.C., Norwich, £88. Rev. E. Elton, M.A., Balliol College, to the P. C. of Wheatley, Oxford, £120. Rev. E. F. Gopp, M.A., of Wadham College, to the united Vicarages of Eastergood and Easterleigh, Essex. Rev. E. Y. Nepean, B.A., of Queen's College, to the Curacy of Hemington, Wilts. Rev. J. Butler, of Brasenose College, Domestic Chaplain to the Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands. Rev. R. Stockdale, to the Rectory of Wilby, Northamptonshire.

The Hon. and Rev. Gerald Wellesley, M.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, and Rector of Strathfieldsaye, has been appointed resident domestic chaplain to her Majesty, in the room of the Hon. and Rev. Charles Leslie Courtenay, who has resigned and taken a Kilmacduagh living.

The Very Rev. Dean Kirwan, of Kilmacduagh, to the Deanery of Limerick.

CONSECRATION.—On Monday last, the new church of St. Matthew, in Scotland-road, Liverpool, by the Bishop of Chester.

ORDINATION.—The Bishop of Chester will hold an ordination on Sunday, the 23rd of September next.

The new church of St. John the Evangelist, at Frieth, near Marlow, has just been consecrated by the Bishop of Oxford. It is in the Decorated style, with open seats of cedar for 150 persons. The windows, &c., are of Bath stone; the belfry is of oak, filled in with decorated tracery. The grey tint of the flint-work gives the chapel a very ancient appearance. There are encaustic tile pavements, and a coloured reredos. The cost of the building was about £1100 or £1200. Mr. Park Harrison was the architect.

POSTSCRIPT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

OATHS BILL.

The Earl of Wicklow said: I rise to exercise a privilege that is the right of every member of this House. I now lay on the table a bill to alter the oaths to be taken by all persons required to take the oaths of allegiance, abjuration, and supremacy, which I now move to be read a first time.

The bill was read a first time accordingly.

VANCOUVER'S ISLAND.

Earl GREY moved the second reading of the Administration of Justice (Vancouver's Island) Bill. The colonization of Vancouver's Island was intended to take place by the Hudson's Bay Company. No political power was conferred on that company, but grants of land had been made to them as had been made in former times to other colonising companies, but under much greater restrictions. The company were bound to provide for the defence of the island. They were also bound to sell lands, and to expend the receipts in the colonisation and improvement of Vancouver's Island.

The bill was read a second time and ordered to be committed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

STATE OF THE NATION.

Mr. HUME proposed to move, by way of amendment to Mr. Disraeli's motion, that, although the free admission of food by the repeal of the corn-laws had contributed to relieve the distress of the country during the late period of suffering, and although the recent relaxations in our commercial system must tend to increase the means of subsistence of the people; nevertheless, in the present state of the nation the state of the finances demanded a thorough revision, that Parliament might be enabled to stimulate the industrial resources of the country by the reduction of taxation. He proposed to move something positive—(laughter)—instead of the hon. member for Buckingham's motion.

POOR RELIEF (IRELAND) BILL.

The House having gone into committee on this bill, the discussion on the several clauses was resumed.—Adjourned at half past one o'clock.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

ROME.

Nothing of a positive nature that can be relied on has reached us up to last evening.

The French Government were, on Thursday evening, said to be in possession of intelligence from Rome calculated to lead to the expectation of a surrender by the Roman Government. General Oudinot is master of both walls and of the advanced works; and being in a position which places the city at his mercy, should he have recourse to the horrors of a bombardment rather than engage his men in the streets, he has offered terms of accommodation, which there is reason to think, through the intelligent agency of M. de Corcelles, will be accepted.

GERMAN STATES.

The insurrection in Baden and the Bavarian Palatinate is completely over, and Mieroslawski is a prisoner in the hands of the Prussians.

The Prince and Princess Joinville arrived at Munich on the 20th instant, from Coburg. On the 21st instant they proceeded to Spain, to visit their mother-in-law, the widowed Empress of Brazil.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE MANSION-HOUSE TO SIR R. PEEL.

The sixth of what may be termed the state dinners given by the Lord Mayor during his year of office, and the third of the political *réunions*, took place on Wednesday evening at the Mansion-House. The party to whose honour the present banquet was devoted was that of which Sir R. Peel is the leader—the two political parties previously entertained by his Lordship being the Ministerialists and the Protectionists.

The dinner was served, as usual, in the Egyptian Hall, where covers were laid for about 200.

Amongst the more distinguished of the visitors were Sir Robert and Lady Peel and Miss Peel, his Excellency the American Minister, Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry and Lady Adelaide Vane, Marchioness of Albury, Marquis and Marchioness of Blandford, Marquis and Marchioness of Ormonde, Earl of Aberdeen, Earl and Countess of St. Germans, Earl of Lovelace, Earl of Lincoln, Earl Jermyn, Earl of Harrowby, Earl Bathurst, Viscount and Viscountess Castlereagh, Viscountess Hardinge and Hon. C. Hardinge, Viscount and Viscountess Sydney, the Right Hon. Sir James Graham, Bart., M.P., the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., the Right Hon. H. Goulburn, M.P., the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, M.P., and Mrs. Herbert, the Right Hon. Sir George Clerk, Bart., M.P., the Right Hon. Sir Frankland Lewis, Bart., M.P., the Right Hon. Stuart Wortley, M.P., the Right Hon. Sir Thos. Fremantle, Bart., the Right Hon. H. T. L. Corry, M.P., Cabaul Effendi (Turkish Embassy), Zaver Effendi (Turkish Embassy), the Lord Chief Justice and Lady Wilde, &c.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH AUSTRALIA.

A public meeting was held at Willis's Rooms on Wednesday, to discuss the most desirable method of promoting steam communication with Australia. The Right Hon. the Earl Talbot in the chair.

The Chairman expressed the great interest which he felt in the colony of Australia, which was growing day by day of greater importance, and therefore required a more direct steam communication with the mother country. One route suggested was by Singapore, another by the Cape of Good Hope, and a third by the Isthmus of Panama and the Pacific. This, however, was a matter of mere detail, and ought to be left for after consideration. Their sole object now was to force upon the attention of the public and the Legislature the necessity of a quicker communication with those distant dependencies of the empire than that at present existing. To show the increase of commerce with them he might state that, while in 1800 the quantity of wool imported from Sydney was 650 pounds, it had since then gradually increased until, in 1848, it amounted to 46,612 pounds. The exports from this country to Sydney of German wool amounted to 17,000 bales. The whole of the wool imported from Sydney amounted now to within 1000 bales of that brought from foreign countries, thus showing how much the trade of our colonies would increase by a rapid and more regular communication with England.

The Hon. F. Scott proposed the first resolution, and said that this important subject had been cast about from one department of the Government to another, between the Post-office and the Admiralty, the Admiralty and the Treasury, and between the Treasury and the Exchequer-office, until at last those who had subscribed their capital to carry out the object which they had met to promote turned away in disgust. It was calculated that each inhabitant of Australia consumed eight or ten pounds' worth of goods, the produce of British industry, while the inhabitants of foreign countries did not take more than at the rate of a shilling a head. The relationships between these two sums would at once show the advantage which would arise from a more prompt intercourse, because by that means they would offer an inducement to men of capital, intelligence, and influence to settle in Australia. With a little zeal and energy, however, they might expect to ultimately force the Government to grant them some assistance to accomplish that object. The hon. gentleman concluded by moving—

That the rapid increase and importance of the Australian colonies rendered the establishment of a steam communication between them and England highly desirable.—Agreed to.

Mr. Sergeant Merewether proposed the next resolution:—

That the inhabitants of the Australian colonies having, through the medium of their respective legislative assemblies, evinced the deepest anxiety to approximate their dependencies with England by steam, it is advisable to cooperate with them in this country for the attainment of that important object.

Mr. Mark Boyd seconded the resolution, and said that this question had been unfairly and most injudiciously kept in abeyance during the last three years and a half. It is painful to think that a body of British merchants and colonists should be compelled to appeal to the friends of our colonies when the postal communications of Great Britain and of America, and of Europe generally, with India and China, have been conducted for several years by steamers. Australia cannot be charged with indifference, for her several legislatures voted liberal sums towards the object they had met to promote; nor can the merchants of London be accused of apathy. By the last return moved for in the legislative council of New South Wales, in 1844, there had been received from Great Britain 68,500 letters, 106,105 newspapers, in addition to 2855 letters and 651 newspapers received from India. In 1844 there had been despatched to Great Britain from Australia 68,652 letters and 95,134 newspapers, and to India 2491 letters and 3779 newspapers. A regular and rapid steam communication with our Australian colonies would facilitate the investment of capital for the development of the boundless resources of Australia and New Zealand. It would establish much greater confidence in all mercantile transactions with these colonies, which the experience of the last 18 months has proved to every receiver of Australian produce in this country who has had to provide for drafts against consignments valued in the colony, in the absence of late intelligence as to the state of the European markets, in many instances 50 per cent. too high. (Hear, hear.)

The resolution was unanimously passed, as also a third, to the effect—"That it was the opinion of the meeting that an appeal should be made to the Government, and petitions presented to Parliament, pointing out the expediency, on imperial as well as colonial grounds, of establishing a direct system of communication between this country and Australia."

BANQUET TO THE PROTECTIONISTS AT THE MANSION HOUSE.—The Lord Mayor entertained at dinner, on Saturday evening, a numerous and distinguished party of Protectionist peers and commoners, with their ladies. The entertainment took place in the Egyptian Hall, where covers were laid for about 150. Amongst the guests were, Lord and Lady Stanley, Duke of Richmond and Lady Caroline Gordon Lennox, Duke and Duchess of Beaufort, Duke of Newcastle, Duke of Cleveland, Marquis and Marchioness of Worcester, Marquis of Granby, M.P., &c. The toasts and speeches were entirely of a complimentary character, politics, as is usual at such dinners, being carefully avoided.—[It is to be regretted that the courtesy which is usual in the invitations given to the press on these occasions, and which is as honourable to those who are the objects of it as it is characteristic of the good taste of those who exhibit it, is not borne in memory at the Mansion House in the present Mayoralty.—Ep.]

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

THE HONOURABLE ARTILLERY COMPANY.—On Monday, this ancient and honourable body was inspected and reviewed by the Captain-General

his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, in the spacious grounds of the Artillery Company, which, as well as the Armoury and Suttling House, was densely crowded by a brilliant circle of spectators. Shortly after ten o'clock, the Artillery Company, properly so called, conveyed to the review ground four handsome specimens of ordnance, and took up their position on the right of the line formed by their brethren. The muster-roll produced about 240 non-commissioned officers and rank-and-file. The Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant, the Hon. Henry Fitzroy, took the command, and was supported by Major Barnard, Captain and Adjutant Bossey, Assistant-Adjutant Snell, and the staff of the corps. The band was also in attendance. His Royal Highness was enthusiastically greeted by the company, the cheers being renewed on his mounting his charger. The Prince was attired in uniform as Captain-General of the Hon. Artillery Company, with which he wore the star and ribbon of the military Order of the Bath. Immediately on entering the ground a Royal salute of twenty-one guns was fired in honour of his Royal Highness, and the review commenced. The various evolutions and manoeuvres were performed with a high degree of excellence. At the close the companies were drawn up, in three sides of a square, when his Royal Highness was graciously pleased to express his satisfaction at the martial appearance and efficient manner in which the corps had gone through the evolutions of the day. The Prince Consort and suite then quitted the grounds, and, after a brief sojourn in the Armoury, entered the Royal carriages, and, amidst loud and hearty cheers, returned direct to Buckingham Palace. The companies afterwards went to ball practice, and in the evening concluded the day by a banquet at the Suttling House. The proceedings were not marred by any accident, and afforded universal gratification to all present.

ROYAL HIGHLAND SCHOOL SOCIETY.—On Wednesday a public meeting was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, in aid of the funds of this society; the Rev. Dr. Cumming in the chair, supported by the Rev. Dr. Clark, of St. Andrew's Church, Edinburgh, the Rev. Norman Macleod, of Dalkeith, and other gentlemen, forming a deputation from Scotland. Dr. Clark stated that, through the instrumentality of this excellent society, education had been carried to the remotest parts of Scotland. The number of children under the daily care of the society was 20,000; and the cost of educating each child was only 5s. a year. The total amount, therefore, that was required for the instruction of each child was £1 sterling—taking a period of four years as the time usually occupied for that purpose. But, notwithstanding the advantages derived from the labours of this society, there were still many thousands of families living in as complete ignorance as if they were in a heathen land, and as devoid of religious knowledge as if the light of the Scriptures had never dawned upon their Christian country. The society, therefore, were desirous of augmenting their funds, not only on account of the children who were at present destitute of education, but in order that they might be enabled to increase the salaries of the schoolmasters, who now receive only £18 a year each, a very inadequate remuneration for their services. The funded property of the society was £5000, but this sum was entirely absorbed in the maintenance of the various schools already established. In the evening the anniversary festival of the society was held at the same establishment, the Duke of Argyll in the chair.

LONDON ORPHAN ASYLUM.—A special general court of the governors and subscribers to this corporation was held on Monday, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, James Capel, Esq., in the chair, when, on the recommendation of the board of managers, rule 58 was amended, so as to confide in the board the power of granting leave of absence to children; and it was also carried, with but two dissentient voices, "That the practice of allowing as many votes as there are children to be elected be discontinued, and that for the future one vote be allowed for each annual guinea and ten guineas life subscription." The election into the establishment at Clapton of 30 children—13 girls and 17 boys—from a list of 141 candidates, was then proceeded with. The business of the day terminated at three o'clock, when the chairman announced the issue of the polling.

INFANT ORPHAN ASYLUM, WANSTEAD.—The governors of this institution celebrated their anniversary on Wednesday, at the scene of their humane labours—the institution itself—which stands amidst the glades of Epping Forest. The building itself is a fine Elizabethan structure, combining with the quaint design of the period to which it belongs the comforts and conveniences which modern science and experience have engrafted upon the architecture of our ancestors. The ground-floor is occupied by the spacious refectories and schoolrooms, and above are dormitories, constructed with every attention to cleanliness and ventilation, and capable of accommodating 400 children. The proceedings were commenced by the Bishop of London, who took the chair at two o'clock, and carefully examined the children in such elementary branches of religious and moral education as were suited to their tender years. A hymn was creditably sung by some of the senior pupils, and the examination concluded with the exhibition of specimens of writing and needlework. The right rev. Prelate then addressed a few eloquent observations to the large company assembled eulogistic of the charity and its objects, and concluded by expressing his regret that other engagements prevented his remaining to partake of the hospitality of the institution. After this the company adjourned to the refreshment room to partake of an elegant and abundant *déjeuner*. The chair was taken by his Grace the Duke of Argyll, at whose table was seated Miss Burdett Coutts and several other persons of distinction. About 400 ladies and gentlemen partook of this entertainment. The subscriptions of the evening amounted to £1250.

CONSECRATION OF THE NEW WEST LONDON SYNAGOGUE.—Monday being the 5th of Tammuz, 5609 of the Jewish era, the ceremony of the consecration of the West London Synagogue of the British Jews, which is situated in Margaret-street, Cavendish-square, was performed by the Rev. Mr. Marks, the minister, in the presence of a respectable and influential congregation of members of the Hebrew nation, among whom were Baron Goldsmid, Mr. M. Mocatta, &c. During the service, a prayer, written for the occasion, was offered up for the Queen and Royal Family. About £600 was collected.

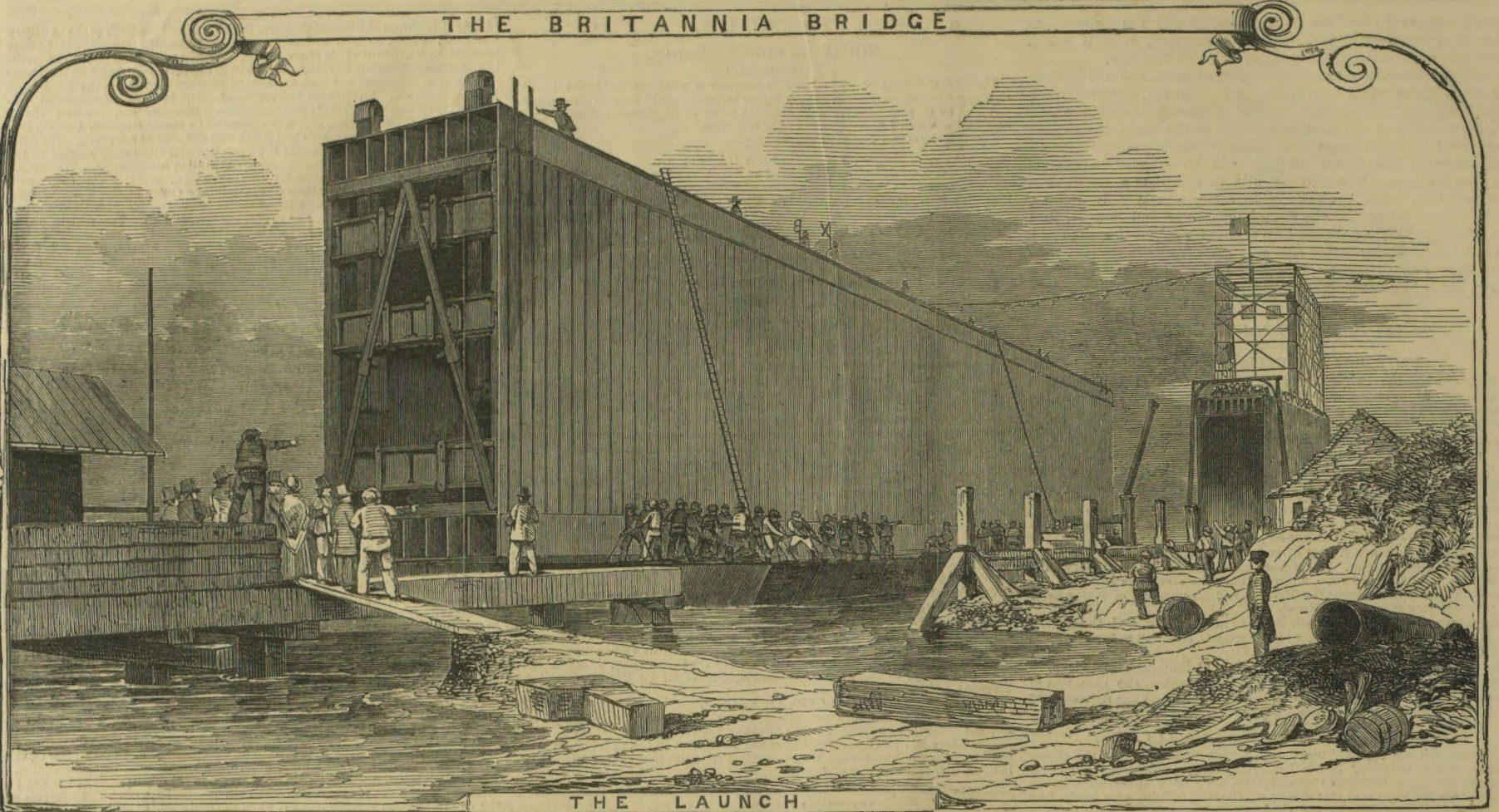
EXTRAORDINARY ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE FROM HORSEMERGER-LANE GAOL.—The following extraordinary particulars of a recent attempt of three burglars to escape from this prison, were elicited at an investigation held by the visiting justices a few days ago. The parties in question were notorious house-breakers named Devant, Marten, and Smith, and were tried at the last Surrey Assizes, and sentenced to fourteen years' transportation. Devant was tried at Kingston in 1847, and sentenced to ten years' transportation for breaking into the Archbishop of Canterbury's palace at Addington, near Croydon. On the same day that he received his sentence he managed to break out of Kingston Gaol, and was not heard of until Thursday week, when he was detected in the act of committing sacrilege, and when brought to Horsemerger-lane Gaol, identified by Mr. Keene, the Governor, as the runaway convict. Marten was tried at the last assizes, and sentenced to similar punishment for breaking into a gentleman's house near Kingston, but through the intrepid conduct of the son of the owner he was captured. Smith was one of the same stamp, and being such desperate characters it was judged prudent to confine them in one of the strong rooms of the prison. Adjoining the latter a room was fitted up for prisoners who were allowed by the county to keep themselves with food and drink; consequently those parties were allowed a certain portion of porter daily. The three burglars, during the time of their incarceration, contrived to get possession of a pewter pot, which was the extraordinary means of their fitting keys to the cells. It appeared that they were enabled to see through the keyhole, and, by means of tallow and some other substance, take an impression of the wards. They then, with the assistance of a piece of old iron, which they sharpened, formed a key out of the pint pot, and, in the middle of the night, they unlocked the door, and forced their way into a passage called the Arcade. Their ingenious key also unlocked the door of that place, when they found themselves on the green at the rear of the Sessions House, the outer wall of which is about 20 feet high, and surmounted with sloping spikes. They had previously torn their blankets and rugs and tied them together, and had actually attached one end to the spikes, ready to ascend, when one of the watchmen perceived their movements, and instantly communicated with the others. Devant was about to climb up the wall, when the watchman in question ran to the spot and secured him; and while he was struggling to prevent the others from escaping, Mr. Keene and a number of turnkeys came to his assistance, and overpowered the others. They were taken back to the interior of the prison, and so heavily ironed as to prevent them making such an attempt again. The key is kept as a matter of great curiosity.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1849.—The total deaths registered in the week were 985, and exhibit an excess, but not more than 22 above the average. The increase, as in the previous week, arises almost exclusively from epidemic diseases; for the deaths in this class were in the last three weeks 251, 251, 277; whilst the average does not exceed 198. Hooping-cough and cholera are alone predominant on the list; the former having been fatal to 53 children—more than the average by 19; and the latter to 49 persons at all ages. Of these 49 deaths from cholera, 11 occurred under 15 years of age, 32 between that age and 60, and six at 60 years and upwards. They principally occurred in the southern and eastern districts. The progress of mortality from this disease during the last four weeks is marked by the following numbers:—9, 22, 42, 49. The mortality from diarrhoea has rather decreased; for the number of deaths from it, which in the previous week were 36, in the last week were only 17, whilst the average is 12. All other fatal causes which make the large contribution to the weekly mortality, now exhibit the usual amount, or fall considerably under it. The deaths from phthisis have been for a long period less than the average; last week they were 127, or 18 under the estimated number. A man of 58 years died, according to the return of the medical attendant, of "general decay, probably accelerated by voluntary abstinence, after an illness of ten days." Two deaths from destitution occurred in Islington Workhouse. In Goswell-street-sub-district, a lady died at the extreme age of 103 years, within two hours after having taken a dose of laudanum, which had been prescribed by a druggist. The births registered during the week were 1255.

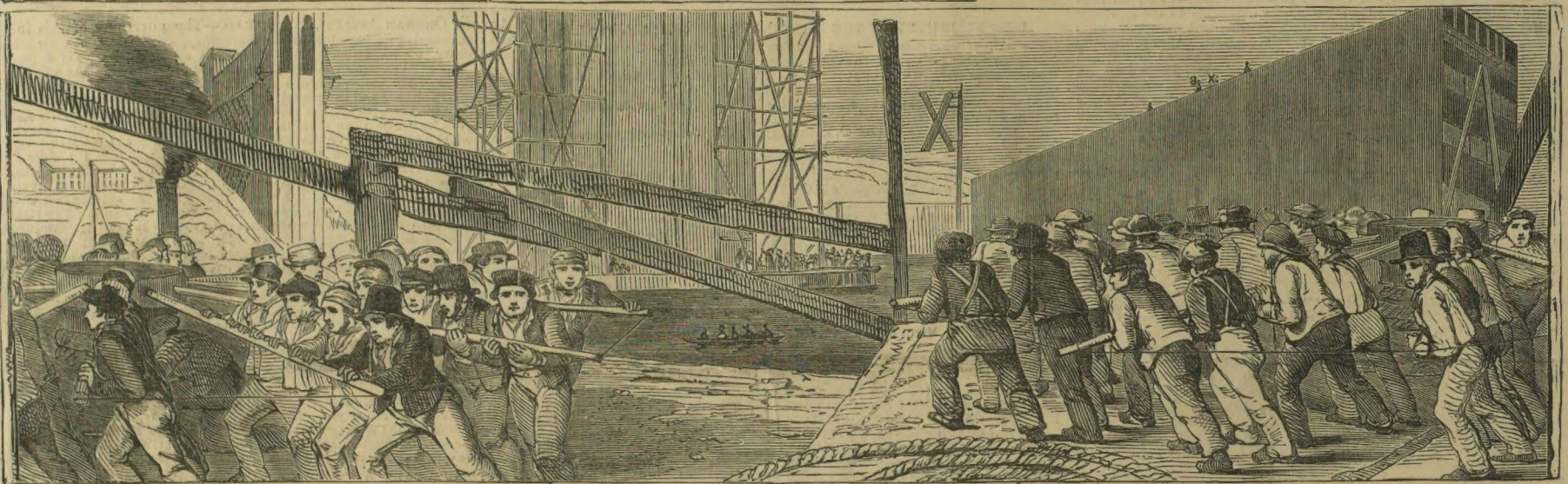
METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.—The mean reading of the barometer at Greenwich was 29.890 in. for the week; the mean daily reading was above 30 in. on Wednesday. The mean daily temperature rose from 54.9° on Sunday, to 67° 1 on Saturday, on which day it was highest. The highest reading also occurred on that day, when it was 78° 6 in the shade, and 106° 8 in the sun. The mean temperature of Saturday was 6° 8 above the average of the same day in seven years, though the temperature of the whole week was rather less than the average.

WILLOW BANK, FULHAM.—The view of this villa and its costly contents has been attended by a large number of the nobility and gentry during the week. Among the articles of *verru*, the Dresden and Sevres porcelain is entitled to a special notice: a set of Sevres dessert plates, and a *déjeuner* service of Dresden, with exquisitely painted portraits and flowers, have rarely, if ever, been surpassed in delicacy and high finish. The arrangements for the sale, to commence on Monday, are admirable.

THE BRITANNIA BRIDGE



THE LAUNCH



THE CAPSTAN



NEARING THE BRIDGE

SUMMER.—THE STRAWBERRY GIRL.—DRAWN BY GAVARNI.



We owe thee much, resplendent June,
For fresh delights of morn or noon,
For lingering eyes with sunsets bright
For deep serenities of night,
For foliage rich, and pomp of flowers
For music of the skies and bowers,
For sweet fruition, early found,
And all the promise of the ground.

But, lovely June, although we prize
The charms thou spreadest to our eyes;
Though we admire thee, young and fair
With jocund cheeks and flowing hair;
Although we love to hear the song
That floats thy leafy woods among,
We own a fondness as intense
For gifts that please another sense.

When swallows build beneath the eaves,
There grows, deep hidden under leaves,
Near to the ground, retiring, shy,
Tinged with the summer's earliest dye,
With bright complexion—healthy—clear—
The fairest berry of the year;—
The Strawberry, profusely strewn,
The jewel in the lap of June.

Happy is he who, now and then,
Can wander from the marts of men,
To prune his trees, to trim his walks
To lift his roses' drooping stalks;
Or, with his wife and children fair,
Eat his own fruits in open air,
And watch, well pleased, their bright eyes gleam
To feast on strawberries and cream.

Pleasant the picture of the joy
That fills the heart of girl and boy.
See how they spy, 'mid leaves conceal'd,
The berries by their flush reveal'd;—
See how they pluck them as they go
From hiding-places warm and low;
And eat a tax of one in two—
A tribute claimed *in transitu*.

The happy lark is mounting high;
Her anthem quivers through the sky.
The wind upon the tree-top swells;
Below it rock the lily-bells;—
The fruit is pluck'd—the cloth is laid—
They sit together in the shade,
And share a feast whose luxury pure
Might tempt the richest epicure.

E'en those whom harsher fate detains
By care, or toil, or money-chains,
In smoky precincts of the town,
Far from the garden, field, or down;
Who, bending over desks severe,
Scarce know the changes of the year—
Partake, O June! thy blessings shed,
And love thee for thy berries red.

Pomona sends through street and lane
The buxom maidens of her train;
And toil-worn men at work rejoice
To hear the customary voice,
That rings adown the busy street,
In long-drawn accents, clear and sweet—
"Hautbois! fresh gather'd! taste and try!
Hautbois! ripe hautbois! come and buy!"

Sweet are the grapes that bloom by Rhine,
Sweet are the eastern date and pine;
Sweet are the oranges that grow
Where Guadalquivir's waters flow;
Sweet is the apple—sweet the pear—
The blushing peach—the cherry fair:
But bright and beautiful though they be—
Give me, oh give, the STRAWBERRY.—CHARLES MACKAY

THE BRITANNIA TUBULAR BRIDGE.

In our last we briefly noticed the floating of this mighty iron monster to its destination, and this week we illustrate the event. In our Journal of January 13, 1849, some particulars of the construction of the Britannia Bridge will be found—the size of the piers, their general architectural features, &c.—with a view of the structure completed; and in our Journal for March 11, 1848, will be found sectional and other representations of the iron tube erected over the river Conway, and which will serve to elucidate the character and mode of construction of this, its larger congener, as in principle they are exactly similar, and to it we refer our readers, to understand the mode in which the iron plates are riveted together, so as to form the huge fabric shown in our representations; premising that the following details of the size, &c. of this tube are correct, as they are generally taken from a good description in the *Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald*, where they are based on the statistics given in a capital pamphlet, just published, entitled "A General Description of the Britannia and Conway Tubular Bridges;" and it is worthy of remark, that the

London press generally quoted, inaccurately, this pamphlet, without acknowledging, in the slightest manner, their obligation.

The tube which was floated on Wednesday is one of four, which, with four smaller ones (that are erected where they will have ultimately to stand), will form the entire double hollow of the viaduct. It has been built by Mr. Charles Mearns, of Blackwall. It, as well as the other three large tubes, is four hundred and seventy-two feet in length; an allowance of twelve feet having been made, over and above the span between the two towers that are destined for its reception, in order that six feet, at either end, may be finally imbedded in the solid masonry.

The author of the "General Description" of these tubes gives the following pleasing illustration:—"Our London readers will better appreciate the great length of these tubes, by remembering that if one of them were placed on end in St. Paul's Churchyard, it would reach 107 feet higher than the top of the cross!"

The tube is not of equal height throughout: the end which is to be fitted into the central main tower (commonly called the Britannia Tower) is 30 feet in height; whilst the end which will be fitted into the Anglesey Tower is only 27 feet high; the centre being intermediate, and the smaller tubes still further tapering towards their termini—so that the whole viaduct may have that extra

strength which an arched roofing only could confer. The width is 14 feet 8 inches throughout. The sides, top, and bottom of this gigantic tube are formed of oblong wrought-iron plates, varying in length, width, and thickness, according to circumstances, but of amazing size and weight. They are so placed as to produce the appearance of stone or brickwork, and to obtain the greatest possible amount of strength; care being taken to secure every joint by means of a thick plate closely rivetted over it. These rivets are the same as those by which the plates themselves are connected; and no less than 327,000 of them are contained in a single tube. Holes were punched out in the plates in order to receive them; and they were made red hot immediately prior to being driven in, in order to increase their hold upon the plates.

In addition to the sixteen hundred tons of wrought iron made use of in the construction of the tube itself, an additional two hundred tons of metal was necessary, in order to form lifting frames and cast-iron beams for the purpose of attaching the tube to those chains by which, under the potent influence of hydraulic pressure, it will be eventually lifted one hundred and two feet above high-water level.

These chains, beams, and frames are thus referred to by the intelligent and well-informed writer above quoted:—"The chains by which the tube is lifted

will be attached to it at two feet from the end; and, in order to get sufficient attachment at this part, three strong frames of cast iron are built into each end of the tube. The innermost frame is intended only to stiffen and support the sides while the tube is resting on its ends: the two outer frames are the lifting frames; the chains are attached to these by three sets of massive cast-iron beams, placed across the inside of the tube, one above another, their ends fitting under deep shoulders or notches in the lifting frames, where they are secured by screw-bolts. As an additional security, two very strong wrought-iron straps pass over the upper pair of beams, and descend into the bottom cells beneath the frames, where they are strongly keyed."

This lifting apparatus is shown in our first and third Engravings. In order to convey an iron tube of this stupendous magnitude and weight from the Carnarvon shore towards that of Anglesey, in a slanting direction, that is, in a line forming the hypotenuse of a triangle, to which nearly the entire width of the Straits was a side, it was clearly necessary that it should be previously made capable of floating. This was to be effected, as in the case of the Conway tube, by large hollow boxes, formed of solid barks, or of iron plates, closely joined together, and furnished with valves, so as to admit water, and also with pumps, in order to eject it. The same six wooden pontoons that had been made use of at Conway, were put in requisition on the present occasion; and, in addition, two others, built for the purpose, of wrought-iron plates, closely and securely rivetted together. Each of these pontoons or boxes is ninety-eight feet in length, twenty-five feet in width, and eleven feet in depth. Apparently, to the eye, the wooden ones are rectangular; but an improvement seems to have been adopted with respect to the iron ones. These latter resemble the truncated frustrum of a quadrangular pyramid inverted—a form which gives to them a boat-like facility of motion.

On an average, each of these boxes is capable of containing nineteen thousand cubic feet of air; and, of course, capable also, if fully submerged, of displacing a like volume of water. This gives to each of them a buoyancy capable of supporting four hundred tons; and, as the whole eight were made use of, the maximum floating power was three thousand two hundred tons—that is, fourteen hundred tons more than the entire weight of the iron tube and its appurtenances.

This vast disposable surplussage of power was expedient, if not necessary, on many accounts. It not only provided for the exigency that would arise, in case the valves or pumps of any pontoon should render its action inefficient; but it rendered the necessary equilibrium that would have to be maintained between the valves and the pumps more facile of attainment—a condition of the utmost importance to the success of the undertaking, as it would enable the general superintendent of the floating department, Captain Claxton, precisely to adjust the surplus buoyancy to all the conditions of wind, and wave, and tide.

The action of the capstans and hawsers used in dragging the tube to its destination is thus described in the interesting pamphlet before referred to. It is to be borne in mind the pamphlet was published before the floating took place; but, as it was written by an "Assistant Engineer," the particulars are strictly correct, as our correspondent vouches for its literal accomplishment.

"The operation of floating the tube will be commenced by closing all these valves at low water; as the tide rises the pontoons will begin to float, and shortly afterwards to bear the weight of the tube, which will be at last raised by them entirely off its temporary supporting piers; about an hour and a half before high water, the current running about four miles an hour, it will be dragged out into the middle of the stream by powerful capstans and hawsers, reaching from the pontoons at each end to the opposite shore. In order to guide it into its place with the greatest possible certainty, three large hawsers will be laid down the stream, one end of them being made fast to the towers between which the tube is intended to rest, and the other to strong fixed points on the two shores, near to and opposite the further end of the tube platforms; in their course they will pass over and rest upon the pontoons, being taken through 'cable stoppers,' which are contrivances for embracing or gripping the hawser, and thereby retarding, or, if necessary, entirely destroying the speed induced by the current."

Thus these hawsers answer exactly the same purpose as the ropes of a ferry-boat, and the tube slides down them just as the ferry-boat does. Their entire length is rather more than two miles, and they are four inches in diameter.

Active preparations are being made for the raising of the tube to the position it will ultimately occupy on the towers, 102 feet above high water. This interesting operation, it is expected, will take place in the course of the next few weeks; and this event we shall fully illustrate.

(From our own Correspondent.)

As it is here unnecessary to repeat the mention of the mishaps which hindered the first and second attempts to float the tube, I shall begin my chronicle of the events of the afternoon of Wednesday by observing, that, as the unsuccessful effort to float the tube in the morning, became generally known, so also did the report that certainly the tube would be got out in the evening, and great numbers of persons gathered on every available spot on the Carnarvon side of the Straits, and likewise on the Anglesey side. The directors of the Chester and Holyhead Railway had issued excursion tickets for two days; and parties holding them were entitled to seats on one of the large tubes, on the Carnarvon shore, as yet unfinished, whence an admirable view of the proceedings was obtained; and there were also seats on the Anglesey side, appropriated, I believe, to those who came from Holyhead and other parts. Through the kindness of Edwin Clarke, Esq., the assistant engineer, I was permitted to ramble over the works as I pleased, and I availed myself of his permission as fully as possible. In the course of the afternoon I decided what points I should prefer taking the illustrations from, and sketched all the fixed portions of the scene—such as the piers, foregrounds, &c., and then waited till the great event came off to put the tube in my sketches in its proper position.

As the time appointed drew on, I took up my place near one end of the tube, where many engineers and others had congregated, and it was a stirring and interesting scene. The preliminary proceedings for letting go at the proper time having been arranged, several engineers of note got on the tube, as well as Mr. Stephenson, his assistant engineer Mr. C. H. Wild, Mr. Edwin Clark, Mr. F. Foster, &c. Capt. Claxton, who was easily distinguished by his speaking-trumpet, was extremely busy on the top of the tube also, as to him was entrusted the management of floating the tube. There were also men to hold the letters which indicated the different capstans, so that no mistake could occur as to which capstan should be worked, and flags, red, blue, or white, signalled what particular movement should be made with each. About half-past seven o'clock in the evening the first perceptible motion, which indicated that the tide was lifting the mass, was observed, and, at Mr. Stephenson's desire, the depth of water was ascertained, and the exact time noted. In a few minutes the motion was plainly visible, the tube being fairly moved forwards some inches, and I then ran to the spot I had selected for my first sketch, "The Launch," in order to see the true position in which the tube left her moorings, and noted it down immediately. This moment was one of intense interest, the huge bulk gliding as gently and easily forwards as if she had been but a small boat; the spectators seemed spell-bound, for no shouts or exclamations were heard, as all watched silently the silent course of the heavily freighted pontoons. The only sounds heard were the shouts from Captain Claxton, as he gave directions to let go ropes, to haul in faster, &c.; and, broadside on, the tube floated majestically into the centre of the stream. I then left my station and ran to the entrance of the works, where I got into a boat, and bade the men pull out as far as they could into the middle of the Straits. This was no easy task, the tide running strong; but it afforded me several splendid views of the floating mass, and one was especially fine, the tube coming direct on down the stream, the distant hills covered with trees, two or three small vessels, and a steamer, its smoke blending well with the scene, forming a capital background; whilst on one side, in long stretching perspective, stood the three unfinished tubes, destined ere long to form, with the one then speeding on its journey, one grand and unique roadway. It was impossible to see this imposing sight and not feel its singleness, if one may so speak. Anything so mighty of its kind had never been before; again it may be assuredly be; but it was like the first voyage made by the first steam-vessel—something till then unique.

The second sketch shows the men working two of the capstans near the Anglesey pier; and a few feet behind this spot was erected a platform for the directors and their friends. This platform commanded a beautiful view of the whole proceedings, and it was decorated with branches of oak, and a flag waved from its top. It is just shown in the third sketch, which is taken from the boat, and represents the scene at twenty-five minutes to nine o'clock, when the tube was nearing the Anglesey pier.

At this moment the expectation of the spectators was greatly increased, as the tube was so near its destination; and soon all fears were dispelled as the Anglesey end of the tube passed beyond the pier, and then the Britannia pier end neared its appointed spot, and was instantly drawn back close to the pier, so as to rest on the bearing intended for it. There was then a pause for a few minutes while waiting for the tide to turn; and, when that took place, the huge bulk floated gently into its place on the Anglesey pier, rested on the bearing there, and was instantly made fast, so that it could not move again.

The cheering, till now subdued, was loud and hearty, and some pieces of cannon on the shore gave token, by their loud booming, that the great task of the day was done. The engineers on the tube drank in champagne the triumph of the day, and the thousand spectators gave token by their hearty cheering that they participated in the pleasure of the event.

The Carnarvon shore was thronged by crowds of spectators, and the tops of two of the unfinished tubes were appropriated to visitors—one being, as before mentioned, for excursionists, and the other for friends of Mr. Mare, the contractor for three out of the four tubes. There were a great many excursionists who came from Dublin, as I saw several in the course of the day, and all spoke of many others who had come by steam-boat in the early part of the morning. From all parts easy of access, and from many very distant places, there were parties to see the floating of the iron monster; and all the hotels were filled, numbers of persons sleeping at Chester and Conway, being certain no accommodation could be obtained at Bangor. The extremely pretty inn, the George, Menai Bridge, was crowded with visitors, its proximity to the Britannia Bridge works rendering it a most eligible spot to sojourn in; and numerous distinguished visitors made it their abode, as did most of the leading engineers. The unlucky wight who had not bespoken accommodation for nearly three weeks before-hand, had but slender chance of finding any. The same, we believe, was the case with most of the hotels within reasonable distances.

To while away the hours during the long time parties were waiting to see the tube float, itinerant purveyors of cakes, men with gambling games, pea and nut-rigs, a travelling pavilion of amusements, and other minor entertainments, had congregated near the Carnarvon pier; and, last, but not least in giving amusement to the descendants of the Cymri, was the veritable town looking Punch; but whether his jokes were in English or Welsh, I did not get near enough to ascertain.

The reports of floating the tube in the daily papers were excessively inaccurate, and no small merriment was created amongst the engineers and others at the George, by reading in Wednesday's papers a flourishing account of the

floating, when the tube was still safely moored on the pontoons. And the statistics were as inaccurate as the description of the floating; so that no dependence could be placed in a single paragraph.

LAUNCH OF THE BRITANNIA BRIDGE.

Toll of the mighty hands of yore!
Landmarks of ages! that have stood
Ere ahd Afric's desert shore
Saw Pharaoh's pomp on Nilus' flood;
Dark statues of the death of time!
Of human glory and decay—
Making the desert's sands sublime,
Linking the Eternal with to-day;
How poor the pride you rose to show,
The despot's power, the warrior's sword!
Nameless and worthless, who shall know
The perish'd dust you could record?

Grey rocks that frown, by wood and wold,
On England's plains and Norway's heath;
Who shall your story dark unfold,
Of Druid rite and Pagan death?
How round each wicker-circled crest
High Baal's priesthood longing stood,
Till Youth and Beauty's wounded breast
Gave to their god the purple blood.
To-day, what are ye? Clownish fears—
With fays and spirits clothe ye now;
While Study's self your veil of years
Scarce dares to draw from off your brow.

Huzza! the day hath dawn'd at last,
Long hoped by sage—by poet wold;
Taught wisdom by the fruitless past,
Now Human Toil is Human Good.
Ay, raise again that glorious cheer!
What music equals labour's praise?
Toll's triumph dream't by sage and seer,
Breaks glorious on our raptur'd gaze.
Huzza! for hands that never fail—
For English hope that never dies!
Before such conquests what avail
The Pharaohs and the Ptolemies?

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The Newcastle meeting, brought to a close on Thursday, maintained its position—not more; for, notwithstanding the liberal manner in which the fund is kept up, and the unceasing exertions of the committee to make the programme attractive to all classes, it was obvious that the crack race of the week never excited so little interest. The truth is, so many places are now competing for public favour, and so numerous are the great stakes introduced into the market, that the public scarcely know on which to place their affections; hence, the money which in the olden time would have given importance to two or three events, is now frittered away on a dozen, and the professionals operate at almost a certain loss.

The Winchester Races, on Thursday and Friday, presented but a moderate list, and was not well attended by the sporting classes. The chief attraction was the Two-year-old Stakes, for which the Duke of Richmond's flying mare, Officious, and Blarney, winner of the New Stakes at Ascot, were expected to meet: the result had not reached us when our paper went to press.

The racing fixtures for next week embrace the Newmarket July Meeting, on Tuesday and two following days; Carlisle, on Tuesday and Wednesday; and Presteigne and Welland. Cricketing at Lord's, on Monday, between All England and Kent; and, on Thursday, between the Club and ground and the Rugby School. The only aquatic event of any interest will be the Landmen's Match, at Greenwich, on Monday.

TATTERSALL'S.

THURSDAY.—A small muster this afternoon, and not much business doing. The following quotation will show the extent of the alterations:—

JULY STAKES.		
Even on three agst the field.	7 to 2 agst Impression	4 to 1 agst Tordesillas.
LIVERPOOL CUP.		
9 to 2 agst Escaedarius	9 to 1 agst Koleshe	15 to 1 agst Montague
7 to 1 — Thringarth (t)	10 to 1 — John Cosser	The field agst six
GOODWOOD CUP.		
2 to 1 agst Canezon	15 to 1 agst Belus	
GOODWOOD STAKES.		
10 to 1 agst Plaudit	14 to 1 agst Tophans (t)	18 to 1 agst Collingwood
10 to 1 — Fernhill	15 to 1 — St. Antonio	20 to 1 — Syrup
12 to 1 — Clermont (t)	18 to 1 — Fire-eater	
DERBY.		
18 to 1 agst Pilsford	30 to 1 agst William the Con-queror	33 to 1 agst John o' Groat (t)
30 to 1 — Penang	50 to 1 agst Deloon (t)	40 to 1 — Moulton (t)

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE RACES.—TUESDAY.

The TYKO STAKES of 10 sovs each, h. ft., and 50 added.		
Mr. J. Scott's Mulgrave	(J. Holmes)	1
Mr. Merry's Brennus	(Marlow)	2
The PRODUCE STAKES of 50 sovs each, h. ft.		
Lord Eglington's Belus, 8st 2lb	(Marlow)	1
Mr. M. Dawson's Priestess, 8st 11lb	(Cartwright)	2
The NORTHUMBERLAND PLATE of 200 sovs, added to a handicap of 25 sovs each, 10 ft.		
Mr. B. Eddison's John Cosser, 4 yrs, 7st	(Charlton)	1
Mr. H. Stebbing's Malton, 4 yrs, 7st	(Fenn)	2

WEDNESDAY.

The GRAND STAND PLATE of 15 sovs each, 5 ft., with 50 added.		
Mr. Shepherd's Post-tempore, 3 yrs, 8st 12lb	(Holmes)	1
Mr. B. Green's Osbaldeston, 2 yrs, 6st 12 lb		2
The FREE HANDICAP of 10 sovs each, h. ft., and 50 added.		
Mr. Merry's Miss Ann, 3 yrs, 6st 4lb	(G. Oates)	1
Mr. H. Stebbing's Malton, 4 yrs, 9st 2lb (9 lb extra)		2
The HOTSPUR STAKES of 25 sovs each, p.p., with 100 added.		
Lord Eglington's Elthron	(Marlow)	1
Mr. B. Green's Pelham		2
The TRIENNIAL PRODUCE STAKES of 10 sovs each, h. ft.		
Mr. Wentworth's Ithania	(J. Marson)	1
Mr. J. Scott's Shadwell		2
The CORPORATION PLATE of 60 guineas, added to a Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each. Heats.		
Mr. Shepherd's Alp, 3 yrs.		1
Mr. Bowes's The Flapper, 3 yrs.		2
HER MAJESTY'S PLATE of 100 guineas.		
Mr. B. Green's Athelstane, 9st 2lb	(Winttingham)	1
Mr. Anson's The Sikh, 6 yrs, 10st 5lb	(Templeman)	2
THURSDAY.		
The GOLD CUP.		
Chanticleer		1
Camphine		2

THE FISHMONGERS' COMPANY had a gala day on Saturday last, when the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the new St. Peter's Hospital, at East-hill, Wandsworth (the ancient foundation being about to be removed from Newington Butts), took place with the customary solemnities. The prime warden of this wealthy civic company, accompanied by his brother wardens, the Court of Assistants, and many of the livery of the company, proceeded for the purpose from London-bridge, in the state barge, to the new pier at Wandsworth; and on their return to Fishmongers' Hall, a grand banquet was given in celebration of the event.

THE MERCHANT SEAMEN'S SOCIETY.—On Tuesday, the annual general court of the governors of the above corporation, founded for the relief of seamen in the merchant service, and for the widows and children of such seamen who have died or been maimed and disabled, was held at the offices, in Birch-lane, Cornhill; George Lindsay, Esq., in the chair. After the transaction of general business, George Lyall was re-elected president; and a committee of twenty-one gentlemen were appointed to act for the ensuing year. During the past year several thousand persons, both in London and the outports, including widows and children, have been placed on the pension-list, or have received temporary relief. The committee subsequently proceeded to consider, and place on the books, upwards of fifty new cases for pensions and relief.

FINANCIAL AND PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.—On Wednesday evening the first public meeting of the Parliamentary and Financial Reform Association, for the Hammersmith polling district, was held at the Albion Hall, Hammer-smith, and was very numerously and respectfully attended. The object of the society is exactly similar to that of the one formed in the metropolis, and presided over by Sir Joshua Walsley, namely, to promote a reform in the House of Commons by means of an extension of the suffrage, triennial parliaments, vote by ballot, and equalised electoral districts. Several resolutions were passed in accordance with the object of the meeting.

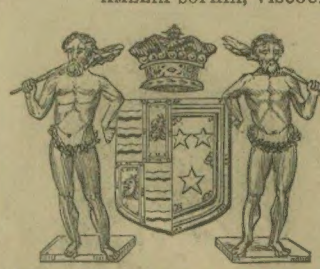
OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS RECENTLY DECEASED.

THOMAS OLIVER PLUNKETT, LORD LOUTH.



This Nobleman, whose death is just announced, had not completed his 40th year, having been born 5th August, 1809. He succeeded to the Peerage, while a minor, in 1823, at the decease of his father, Thomas Oliver, 11th Lord, who had the out-lawry of his great-grandfather annulled, and was restored to his rank, as one of the most ancient Barons of Ireland, in 1798. The noble family of Louth claims a common ancestor with the Earls of Fingal and the Barons of Dunsany, namely, John Plunkett, who was seated, about the close of the 11th century, at Bewley, county Louth. Oliver, 6th Lord Louth, joining the Royalists in 1639, was at the siege of Drogheda; and, at a general meeting of the principal Roman Catholic gentry of the county, held at the Hill of Tallaghosker, was appointed co-general of all the forces to be raised in that district. The Nobleman whose decease we record married, 29th November, 1830, Anna Maria, youngest daughter of the late Philip Roche, Esq., of Donore, county Kildare, by Anna Maria, his wife, youngest daughter of Randal Lord Dunsany; and has left issue four sons and two daughters, the eldest son being Randal Percy Otway, now Lord Louth, born 28th August, 1832.

AMELIA SOPHIA, VISCOUNTESS STRATHALLAN.



THE decease of the Viscountess occurred at Castle Strathallan, Perthshire, on the 19th instant. Her Ladyship was born 5th July, 1780, the third daughter of John, fourth Duke of Atholl; married, 15th January, 1809, John Andrew, present Viscount Strathallan, and has left several children, the eldest, William Henry, being born 5th March, 1810.

Few peeresses in the kingdom had so brilliant a lineage as the late Lady Strathallan. Through her celebrated ancestress, Charlotte de la Tremouille, Countess of Derby, she derived from the illustrious houses of Bourbon and Nassau, and, through Emilia Sophia Marchioness of Atholl, was also in a direct descent from King Henry VII. and his Consort, the Princess Elizabeth Plantagenet, heiress of the House of York.

JAMES BEST, ESQ., OF PARK HOUSE, BOXLEY, KENT LIEUTENANT-COLONEL OF THE WEST KENT MILITIA.



THE family of Best is one of high respectability and position in the county of Kent: the senior line having been represented by the lamented gentleman whose death we announce; and the junior—that seated at Wierton, near Maidstone—by Thomas Fairfax Best, Esq., a county Magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant. Colonel Best, who succeeded to the estates, at the decease of his father, in 1815, married, in two years after, Harriet, daughter of S. R. Gaussen, Esq., of Hertfordshire; and has left a son and heir, James Best, Esq., and other issue.

MR. CLIFT, F.R.S.

This gentleman expired at his residence, Stanhope Cottage, Hampstead-road, a few days since. Mr. Clift had been long and deservedly well known to the public as the conservator of the Hunterian Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, a situation which he had held for nearly half a century. He was appointed to that office on the purchase of the collection by Government from the executors of John Hunter, whose apprentice and assistant he was for many years. Mr. Clift was a Fellow of the Royal Society, and greatly esteemed by the present and former distinguished men of that body, particularly Sir Joseph Banks, Wollaston, and Sir Humphrey Davy. Mr. Clift was a man of sterling honesty and independence; indeed, so far did he carry the latter, that he hesitated not to severely censure the late Sir Everard Home, the President of the College of Surgeons (and from whom he had received great kindness). When informed by that gentleman that he had destroyed the whole of the Hunterian MSS., Mr. Clift's reply was, "Well, Sir Edward, there is but one thing more to be done—that is to destroy the collection;" saying which he turned his back on the literary incendiary. He told the writer he "could not help crying" to think that all the labours of his great master had been destroyed, that wholesale plagiarism should not be detected in the "Lectures on Comparative Anatomy and papers to the Royal Society, communicated by Sir Everard Home after the death of Hunter." The statement of the destruction of the MSS. was obtained from Mr. Clift in his examination before a committee of the House of Commons when this disagreeable affair was for the first time made public. The deceased has left an only daughter, married to Professor Owen.

PROFESSOR SMYTH, M.A.

WILLIAM SMYTH, whose name is one of the brightest in the modern annals of the University of Cambridge, was born in 1765. His College was Peterhouse, Cambridge, and he was made a B.A. in 1787. He was elected Professor of Modern History in his University in 1807, and in that capacity he displayed consummate ability. Professor Smyth has the honour and merit of having been one of the patrons and kind friends of poor Kirke White, and his epitaph upon the tomb of the youthful poet of St. John's is among the best of his productions. The origin of the inscription was this. A plain stone only marked the grave of White after his interment in All Saint's Church, Cambridge. This neglect of the bard's memory was observed by a gentleman from Boston, in America, Mr. Francis Boott (now Dr. Boott, M.D., of Gower-street, London), who forthwith, at his own expense, caused to be erected in the church a monumental tablet to the poet, with a medallion by Chantrey. Mr. Smyth wrote the following lines upon the tablet, which, however well known, cannot, from their beauty, be quoted too often:—

Warm with fond hope and learning's sacred flame,
To Granta's bowers the youthful poet came;
Unconquer'd powers th' immortal mind display'd;
But worn with anxious thought the frame decay'd:
Pale o'er his lamp, and in his cell retired,
The martyr student faded and expired.
Oh! Genius, Taste, and Piety sincere
Too early lost, 'midst duties too severe!
Foremost to mourn was generous Southey seen—
He told the tale, and showed what White had been;
Nor told in vain—for o'er th' Atlantic wave
A wanderer came, and sought the Poet's grave.
On yon low stone he saw his lonely name,
And raised this fond memorial to his fame.

As a lecturer, Professor Smyth was unrivalled; his discourses, both when delivered and when afterwards printed, have been regarded as splendid specimens of oratory and learning. Mr. Smyth's principal published works are "English Lyrics," "Evidences of Christianity," "Lectures on Modern History," and "Lectures on the French Revolution." In private life this great Professor was much esteemed and beloved. His amiable disposition and agreeable manners, imbued as they were with the quaintness of the old school, rendered his society delightful. He preserved in his advanced years his wonted activity and intelligence; and, at the late Royal installation at Cambridge, no one was more forward in doing the honours of the University, or more kindly received by the Queen and the Princely Chancellor, than Professor Smyth. The Professor died at Norwich on the 24th inst., from a gradual decay of nature; his death-bed was surrounded by his friends, and shortly before he expired, he expressed his great satisfaction at being told that his "Evidences of Christianity" had become popular among the youth of the upper classes.

JOHN HATCHARD, OF PICCADILLY.

Our columns recently announced the decease of one, who, although not distinguished by ancestral rank, may be fairly classed among the number of eminent men. The name of John Hatchard, the well known publisher, has for more than half a century been connected with nearly all the philanthropic and religious proceedings of our community. Combined with much originality of character he evinced a tenderness of heart, and a kindly feeling which endeared him to all. Vast numbers, more especially of that important class, the governesses, can testify to the disinterested and practical good which they derived from his energetic benevolence; and it is not uninteresting to know that among the many proofs of gratitude which he received from ladies who fill that position, one was transmitted to him while on his death-bed; it consisted of a silver waiter, accompanied by a letter full of grateful feeling.

Mr. Hatchard was the founder of his own fortune, and his diligence and energy procured for him the regard and esteem of many of the most distinguished characters of the day. The shrewd and practical sagacity which he exhibited caused him to be consulted on many varieties of subjects, theological literary, political, and domestic. He died in his 81st year, after much bodily suffering.

MUNIFICENT DONATIONS.—On Monday last, Miss Drummond, of Berkeley-square, Bristol, presented, through C. L. Walker, Esq., of Redland, donations to the local charities of that city to the value of £1500. To the Orphan Asylum she gave £500; to the Bristol Infirmary, £300; to the Bristol General Hospital, £200; and to the National Benevolent Institution, the Bristol Female Penitentiary, Strangers' Friend Society, Clergy Society, and Deaf and Dumb Institution, £100 each.

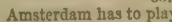
THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY received, on Monday last, a valuable present from Lieutenant-Colonel Butterworth, Governor of Singapore, consisting of a pair of gigantic Sarus cranes, a very fine cassowary, and a sun bear. These animals were sent home in the *Stratheden*, under the care of Mr. Benson.

PROTECTION TO NATIVE INDUSTRY.

Letters were delivered, on Tuesday, from her Majesty's dispatch boat, *Star*, brought by her Majesty's steamer *Stronboli*, which was expected at passage by towing, dated off Cape Farewell, June 7, at which the *Stronboli* took leave of her. The *North Star* was then steadily progressing at the rate of six knots an hour, towards the ice. All well.

GREAT MEETING AT DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

"M. E. R.," "P.," Boldon, are correct.

PROBLEM NO. 284.
B-C-S-I of Oxford.

gave a list of the subscriptions received, among which was a donation of £10 from her Grace the Duchess of Norfolk. Two resolutions were unanimously adopted, one pledging the meeting to support the proposition for a sanatorium and the other appointing an English committee "which shall make regulations for the purpose of carrying into effect the objects in view."

of Ireland; and that unless just protection be afforded against the competition of countries comparatively untaxed, the ruin of the present race of English farmers, and the destitution of the agricultural labourers, are inevitable: nor will it be possible that Ireland can be recovered

THE SCOTTISH SOCIETY OF LONDON.

THE SCOTTISH SOCIETY OF LONDON.

As on the previous day, the proceedings commenced with archery, varied and



A SKETCH AT THE SCOTTISH FETE IN LORD HOLLAND'S PARK, ON THURSDAY LAST.

enlivened by the performances of the military bands and the pipers in attendance. This was succeeded by a match not included in the programme, but got up by the judges, for the throwing of the light hammer. This hammer ought to have been 16lb. weight, but was, in fact, considerably heavier; yet it was thrown a distance of 90ft. 5in. by Sandy McHardy, who won the first prize, and of 90ft. 2in. by Colin Macdonald Cranachan, who won the second.

Dancing and pipe music succeeded the hammer, and gave the greatest delight to the body of spectators present. The reel is a wild and striking performance—full of animation, of rapid movement, of violent though not ungraceful exercise, and in which the hands, the fingers, and the voice take part equally with the feet. The dancing was of a very superior kind, the best performers only appearing, and the applause of the spectators encouraging them to put forth their best efforts.

The next game was the final contention in the putting of a stone, 21lb. weight. Prizes were awarded as follow:—

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Alexander McHardy | 34 feet 5 inches. |
| 2. Thomas Menzies | 33 feet 10 inches. |

Both successful competitors distinguished themselves greatly in this game; and the great distance to which they put the stone, and the clean, admirable manner in which it was put, excited general praise.

After the arrival of her Majesty, the proceedings were reopened with dancing, in which those who had won the prizes took part, and with which her Majesty, Prince Albert, and the Royal children seemed to be highly delighted. This was succeeded by the final contention for prizes in the throwing of the heavy hammer.

At the close of this game broadsword playing and stick practice commenced, and was carried on with the same spirit and skill as on the previous day.

Besides the sword play and stick practice, an interesting exhibition of strength was made by Professor Bushman, who, with a sweep of his sword, cleft in two an immense thick bar of lead, and by a different, though not less expert, use of his weapon, cut right through a thin handkerchief resting upon its edge. After the sword-playing came the "tossing of the caber."

Her Majesty remained more than two hours upon the ground, and her departure took place amidst manifestations of affection and loyalty still more enthusiastic and striking than those which greeted her arrival.

A banquet was then given in a pavilion erected on the grounds, at which Lord Drumlanrig, as vice-president of the society, in the unavoidable absence of the Marquis of Breadalbane, filled the chair. In discharging the duties which thus devolved upon him, his Lordship was ably supported by the Right Hon. Fox Maule, the Chisholm, and other gentlemen well known for their high national spirit, and the interest which they take in everything connected with Scotland. The Chisholm, especially, was most happy in giving the right tone and character to the proceedings of the society. He announced the list of prizes, which was given last week.

The Chisholm also announced that Colin McDonald Cranachan had won the largest number of prizes given at the fete, and was therefore entitled to an extra prize on that account.

The Chairman likewise stated during the evening that her Majesty and Prince Albert had subscribed £50 to the society, and that Lord Holland had consented to allow the use of his park at the repetition of the national games next year.

In our report of last week, the name of the winner of the first prize (for archery), instead of "Mr. Peter Moore," ought to have been *Mr. Arthur Peniston Moore*. As the defeat, on this grand and public occasion, of fifty competitors—many of whom are well known as the most renowned archers in Great Britain—is an achievement highly honourable to the victorious party, it is only just to the latter that his name should be correctly given. The winner is also reported to have belonged to the "English Archers, London." This is also a mistake; he being a member of the *West Norfolk Bowmen*.

ASSAULT OF ARMS AT WILLIS'S ROOMS.

On Saturday, a very interesting performance of this kind took place at Willis's Rooms, under the patronage of Colonel John Hall and the officers of the 1st

Regiment of Life Guards. There was a large and highly-respectable attendance of visitors present, who appeared to take a warm interest in the proceedings. The exhibition comprised swordsmanship, stick-play, sparring, and other amusements, and was commenced by Messrs. Arnold and Sherry taking the foils. They were followed by Messrs. Bushman, Jun., and Jackson, Sergeant Tuohy and Mr. A. Sherry, Sergeant Collins and Mr. Winterbottom, each pair of whom showed surprising mastery of their weapons, and the due combination of elegance with dexterity. This part of the performance was succeeded by a sabre encounter between Mr. Bushman and Sergeant Tuohy, in which the latter, notwithstanding his marvellous rapidity and audacity of manner, was obliged to succumb to the calm and well-directed skill of the former. A still more attractive exhibition was the opposition of the bayonet to the sword, for the purpose of testing which is the most effective weapon. The musket, with spring bayonet attached, was wielded by Sergeant Tuohy in the first instance, Mr. Bushman taking the sword. After a time, the former getting rather the worst of it, the different weapons were changed; and in the hands of Mr. Bushman, the victory, which seemed at first to rest in favour of the sword, was eventually decided for the bayonet.

Nothing could be more satisfactory than the proof which Saturday's exhibition supplied, that in resolute hands the bayonet is one of the most effective of all our weapons of war. After this part of the performances had terminated, Mr. Bushman performed the feat of cutting through a large leg of mutton with one sweep of the sabre. He also severed a thin handkerchief, previously placed on his sword's edge; and handed round the large bar of lead which he had cut in two, two days previously, before her Majesty, in Holland Park. After some clever stick play, young Keene, the well-known pugilist, put on the gloves with Mr. Arnold, the *beneficiaire*, and some sparring commenced, which excited a very lively interest—in none more so, judging by appearances, than in Sir Robert Peel, who, with two of his sons, was present.

Our illustrations show the Sword and Bayonet contest; and the successful attack upon the leg of mutton.



ASSAULT.—BROADSWORD V. BAYONET.



MR. BUSHMAN'S FEAT.

"MRS. PEPPY'S NEW GOWN."

IN our notice of the Exhibition of the Society of British Artists, (page 230 of the present volume,) we pointed to this picture as a successful contribution to the Suffolk-street Gallery, by Mr. Noble, a non-member of the Society. The subject is a pretty little interior, painted from one of those curious entries in Pepys's "Diary," which give so many striking traits of the life and manners of the period. This is, indeed, purely a matter of fashion, the passage running—"My wife this day put on first her French gown, called a *sac*, which becomes her very well." As we said before, the portraits of Pepys and his wife are the least successful portion of the picture; but, what is important, "the composition is good, while the details, in point of selection and execution, show an eye attentive to the niceties of the art." This is an interesting picture, of a class lately become very popular.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

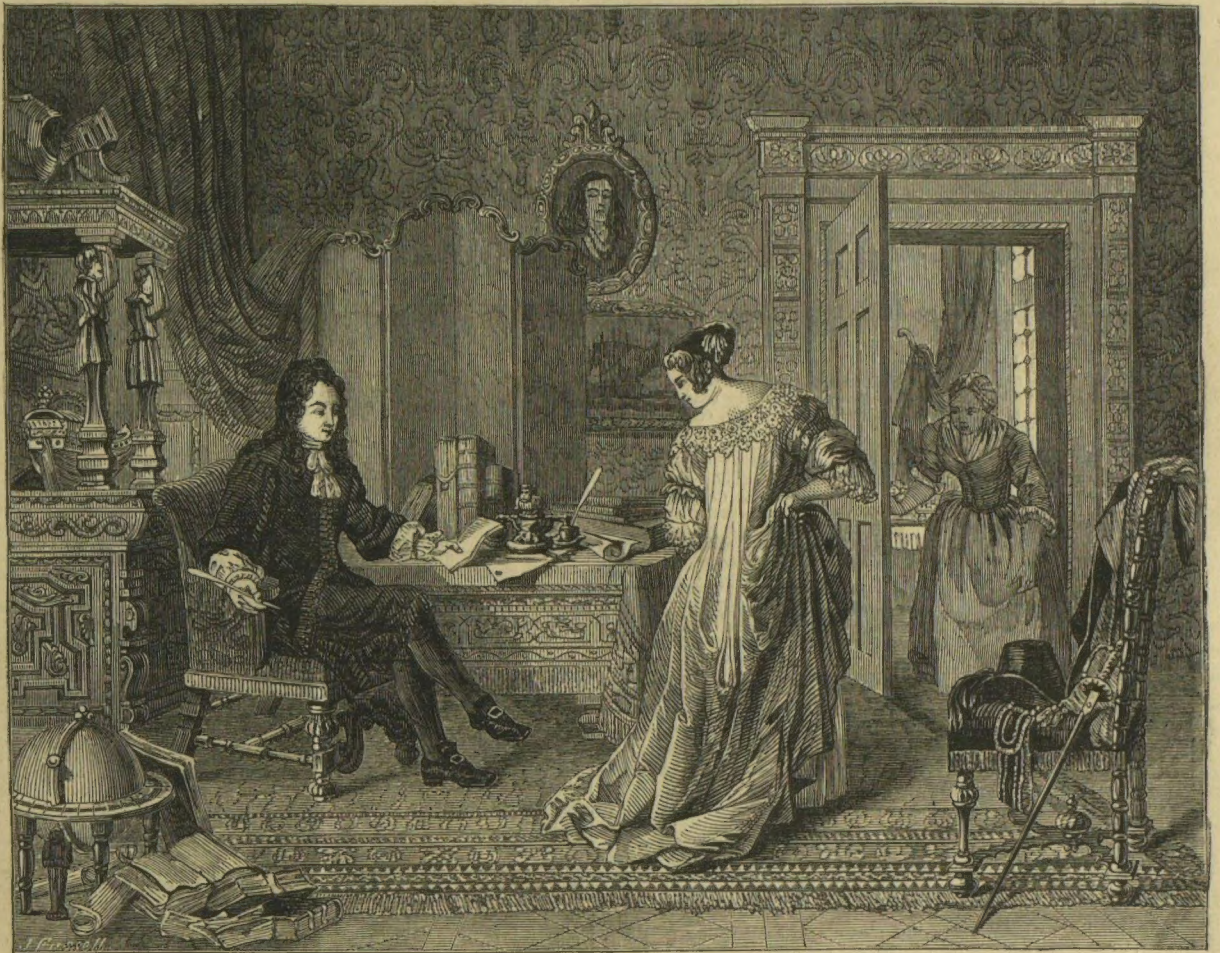
THE continued performance of Mr. Marston's new tragic play of "Strathmore," has induced us to illustrate one of its most impressive scenes—the last, in which Strathmore (Mr. C. Kean), having refused to sign the confession, and abjure his righteous cause, reasons with Katharine (Mrs. C. Kean):—

Strathmore. You shall decide (*she kneels by his side*); two paths before me lie,
The one, through death, to honour—
Katharine. Halbert!
Strathmore. Nay,
There are but two! First, say we chose the nobler.
Then wilt thou think of Strathmore as of one
Who, by his last act, fitly seal'd a life
He would bequeath thee spotless.
Katharine. Ah, bequeath!
And I shall never see thee more!
Strathmore. Yes, Katharine! (*pointing upwards*).
Katharine. The other path?
Strathmore. It leads to life, through shame!
Would'st have me take it?—live to own no bond
But with dishonour; feel remorse consume
My hope, in ashes; when I hear the tale
Of heroes, vainly groan—such once I was!
And, when the cowards shudder—such I am!
Katharine. This gloom will melt in a bright future.
Strathmore. No!
He has no future who betrays his past!
Katharine. Still live!
Strathmore. To give the lie
To my true youth; shrink, when thy straining breast
Throbs to a traitor's; read in those dear eyes
The temptress, not the wife!—All springs of joy
Reflecting my own brand, the ailment
Of every blessing poison'd, age's frost
Numbing the pang it cures not—to crawl down
The steep of time, and to the grave—that last
Dark shelter for disgrace—bear a dead heart.
Katharine. Cease! cease!
Strathmore (*rising*). Speak, shall I sign?
Katharine (*starting to her feet*). NO—DIE!
Strathmore (*embracing her*). My wife! my Katharine! We are one for ever.
Katharine. Teach fate that truth, that we may die together.
Strathmore. Fount of my peace! My own!
Katharine. I am at rest.
How is't with thee?
Strathmore. Sweet, sharp care has mined
The bulwarks of my life, and thy great sea
Of love doth overflow it!
Enter HENRY LORN, SIR RUPERT, and ISABEL.
Henry. Where's the confession? Dalzell comes: your judge!
Katharine. Help, Henry!
Henry. Strathmore!
Katharine. You are come too late!
Strathmore. No, love is ne'er too late. Harry! Old playmate!—
Is that Sir Rupert?
Henry. Speak to him!
Sir Rupert. A night
Deepens upon his face. Halbert, this hour
Blots all our rancours, and I but behold
Thy father in thee!
Strathmore. We're at peace—all, all!
I pray you to deal gently with my brethren.
Isabel. Lean on my bosom, sister!
Katharine. No; 'tis well!
Strathmore. Where art thou, Katharine? [*She places her hand in his.*]
So—I turn my life
To the bright East, where all its beauty rose,
And sleep beneath its beam—we do not part!
[*He falls back into HENRY'S arms, and dies.*]
Katharine (*after a pause*). I am his now—I am his own in death!
[*She sinks on her knees before the body—solemn music.*]
CURTAIN FALLS.

THE THEATRES.

HER MAJESTY'S.

Two performances have created the greatest sensation during the last two weeks; the one was the new and picturesque ballet, in which has at last been realised all that is required of such an entertainment. The first desirer-



"MRS. PEPPY AND HER FRENCH GOWN CALLED A SAC."—PAINTED BY NOBLE.—EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

tum in this respect, of our day, appears to be curtness. We pampered Sybarites of the nineteenth century require the condensed quaintness in choregraphy as we do in perfume. "La prima Ballerina," combining with piquant plot and spirited score pictorial illusion, dances of every kind, from the solo of the fascinating Rosati, and the national "Brigantum" of Petit and Charles, up to the most numerous *pas d'ensemble*, lasts but forty minutes. The attention is always agreeably kept on the stretch; "curiosity is on tip-toe" to know what is to follow; and the whole is finished without the ear or the eye being tired.

The more important affair has been the production of "Lucrezia Borgia," as it has never been presented before. In this magnificent opera, passages of melody and of dramatic action of the greatest beauty and effect are distributed to an extraordinary number of separate and secondary dramatic characters. These, always assigned to third-rate singers, have made this opera incomplete wherever it has been given. At Her Majesty's Theatre, on the present occasion, the distinguished singers, Coletti, Beletti, Bordas, F. Lablache, and Bartolini, from zeal for the establishment, have each taken a part. The result is magnificent. The second scene of the opera, in which each of the characters in turn hurries his execrations at *Lucrezia Borgia*, is fraught with the highest spirit of the lyrical drama. But on this effect so often repeated in the course of the opera—neither on Alboni, who is nightly made to repeat three times "Il segreto," and has introduced a cadenza the most marvellously original—its success does not depend. The great tenor, Moriani, who, when he last appeared in England was in such declining health, that, in spite of his success, it was clear he had not half his powers then under his command, has now reappeared "like a giant refreshed." The astonishment and enthusiasm of the old frequenters can scarce be described. Supported by Parodi, who has here found a part so well suited to her great dramatic genius, and by Lablache, the most magnificent of all *Alfonso*s, this *rendre* of Moriani has proved one of the most signal triumphs on record.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

Cimarosa's "Matrimonio Segreto" was performed for the second time on Saturday last, and went off with the greatest spirit, the trio between Grisli, Persiani and Angri, "Le faccio," being eminently acted. On Tuesday night was the

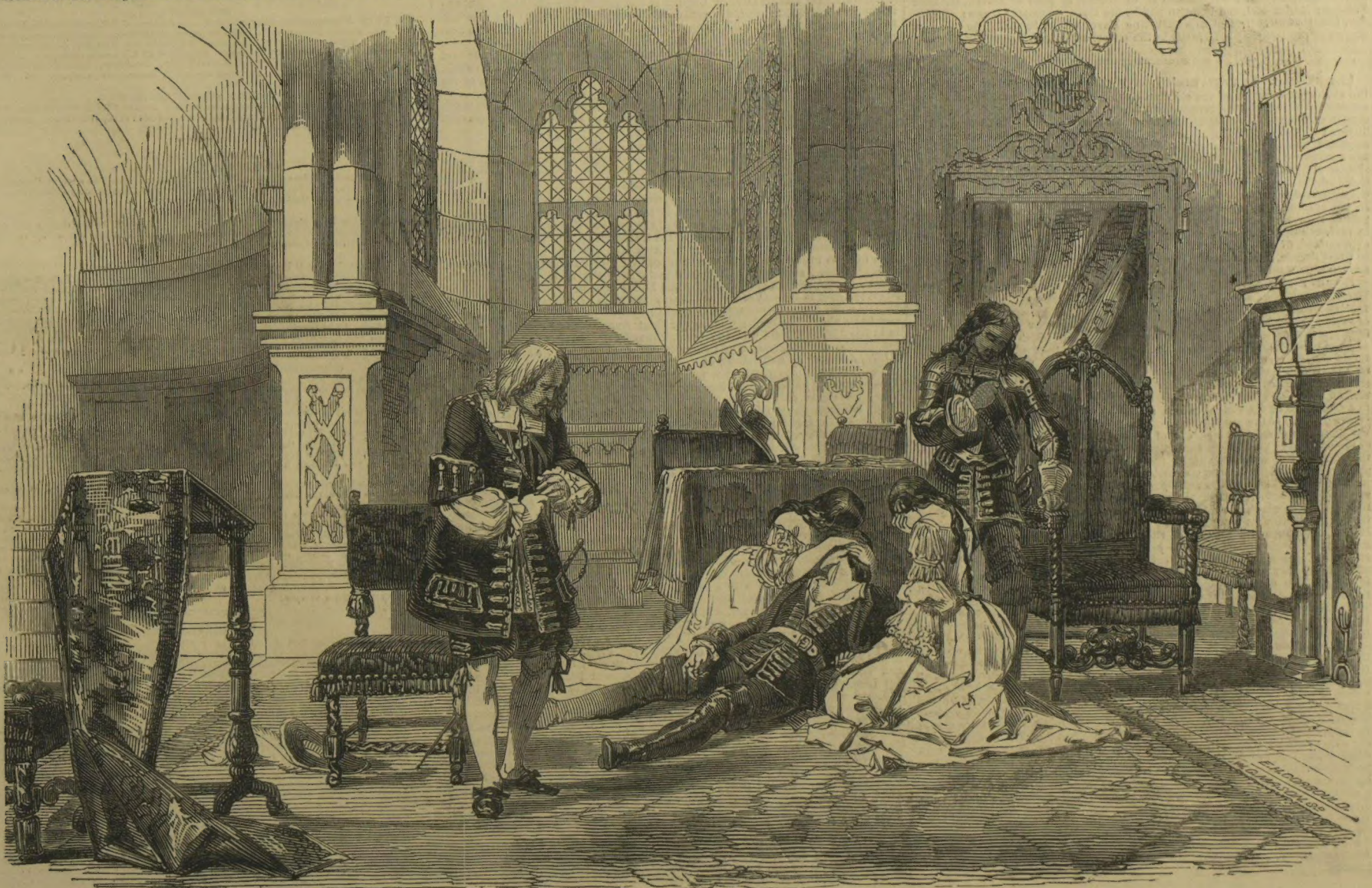
fourth and last performance of Mozart's "Don Giovanni." On Thursday, for the extra night, Meyerbeer's "Huguenots" was given for the seventh time; and such was its attraction that the opera will be repeated to-night (Saturday). Next Tuesday will be an interesting night in operatic annals, being the last appearance on the stage of the gifted vocalist, Madame Persiani, the queen of the school of florid vocalisation. Signor Mario's benefit is announced for next Thursday. Rossini's opera of "La Donna del Lago" will be revived for the occasion; Mr. Sims Reeves appearing, for the first time, as *Roderick Dhu*, and Mdlle. Angri as *Malcolm*; Grisli, Lavia, Marini, and Mario being included in the cast, and Salvi, Tagliabeco, Massol, Polonini, and Tamburini joining in the "Chorus of Bards."

Her Majesty and Prince Albert honoured the performance with their presence on Thursday night.

MUSIC.

CONCERTS.

The eighth and last Philharmonic Concert of the season took place on Monday, at the Hanover Rooms. The scheme opened with Mozart's lovely symphony in E flat, No. 5, op. 58, the Minuet in which was rapturously encored. Pischek then sang the air, "It is enough, O Lord," from Mendelssohn's "Elijah," with earnestness. The trio in E flat of Mozart, for pianoforte, clarinet, and tenor, so familiar to amateurs, was next in rotation; and so admirable was its execution, by Lindsay Sloper, Williams, and Hill, that the amateurs forgot entirely that such works are ordinarily only calculated for chamber practice. Madame Persiani gave the cavatina from the "Sonnambula," "Come per me sereno;" and the first part terminated with Mendelssohn's overture, "Ruy Blas," which was executed with such fire by the band, that its repetition was instantaneously demanded with acclamations. It is a highly dramatic composition, replete with graceful episodes, displaying the incessant restlessness so peculiar to the composer. The second part opened with Beethoven's C minor, marvellously rendered, as may be conceived. Pischek gave a scena from Hérold's "Zampa" vigorously but coarsely. A dull



LAST SCENE OF THE NEW TRAGIC PLAY OF "STRATHMORE," AT THE HAYMARKET THEATRE.

violinello concerto, by Kraft, followed, enabling Mr. Hancock to show off his dexterity as an executant; but the concerto might have gained in favour with more tone and a more refined style. Mme. Persiani's "Una voce" was brilliantly vocalized; and Weber's Jubilee overture, in which the National Anthem was interwoven, played out the subscribers for this season. The Philharmonic Society this season has maintained its fame by the execution of symphonies and overtures; but we cannot praise the taste and discretion exercised in the selection of solo players and singers. It is a mistake in the policy of the directors to present, year after year, the same executants, as if they were entitled to the distinction from prescriptive right; and there have been too many great artists excluded this year from the programmes not to have called forth a strong expression of opinion that there has been too much favouritism. The Philharmonic Society has become a standard of art, and the directors are as much bound to resist the inordinate pretensions of native talent as to discourage the inroads of foreign mediocrities; but celebrated artists of undeniable pre-eminence, whether native or foreign, ought to have a hearing; and it is not fair that the directors in their management should move only in a circle of the narrowest kind.

THE MUSICAL UNION.—The Directors' *matinée*, on Tuesday, was fully and fashionably attended, a compliment justly earned by Mr. Ella, who has been indefatigable in promoting the intellectuality of art. There was a great combination of executive talent, comprising Ernst, Sainton, Joachim, Deloffre, Hill, Platt, Bottesini, and M. Mortier de Fontaine. The Hungarian vocalists and Mdlle. Gramann sang vocal pieces.

The season of the London Wednesday Concerts terminated on the 27th inst., with the 27th of the series. Mr. Stammers, the acting director, with great tact, yielding to the representations of criticism, to raise the character of the programmes, produced Mendelssohn's "Antigone," and it was, on the whole, a very creditable performance—certainly the best execution of the work yet heard in this country. Mr. Bartholomew's translation of the German version of Sophocles' play, with some curtailments, was recited by Miss Vandenhoff, *Antigone*; Miss Huddart, *Ismene*; Mr. Vandenhoff, *Creon*; Mr. Stuart, *Tiresias*; Mr. Lloyd, *Haemon*; Mr. Smithson, *Chorus Speaker*; and Mr. G. Bennett, the *Sentinel*. Even without scenic accessories, so impressively was the poetry delivered, that many portions, particularly the scene between *Creon* and *Haemon*, and *Antigone* and *Creon*, created a marked sensation. The musical portion was conducted steadily by Mr. W. S. Bennett; and the "Hymn to Bacchus" was encored. Singers of a first-rate class ought to have been selected for the quartet "O Eros." There was a miscellaneous selection for the second part of the concert, in which Mdlle. Jetty de Treffz, Miss Lucombe, Mrs. A. Newton, Herr Pischek, Herr Formes, Messrs. Reeves, Williams, and Bing sang, and Miss Ellen Day and Mr. John Day played on the piano-forte and violin.

Dreyschock, the celebrated pianist, gave a *matinée* on Wednesday, at the Hanover-square Rooms, and performed five times with the greatest success, commencing with a sonata of Beethoven. He also played a melody from the first book of Mendelssohn's Songs without Words, besides several of his own compositions. The marvellous mechanism of the player, his prodigious power with the left hand, his mastery of octaves and arpeggios, quite electrified the amateurs. It is impossible to conceive that manual dexterity can be further carried; he has gone infinitely beyond even Liszt and Thalberg in executive marvels. He was rapturously encored in his fugue, and he was also called upon to repeat the "Rhapsodie;" but such a terrific call on his powers it was impossible to give twice. The vocalists were Mdlle. Jetty de Treffz and Mdlle. Agnes Bühring (the latter an accomplished pupil of Manuel Garcia), Herr Stigelli, and Pischek. Treffz sang a graceful air, "La Veneziana," composed for her by Herr Panofka. The interest of this concert was centred in Dreyschock's performances.

MADAME SONTAG.—We have the pleasure of announcing that Mr. Lumley, who has just returned from Berlin, has definitively settled the engagement of Madame Sontag, who will immediately appear at Her Majesty's Theatre, the scene of her former triumphs. This celebrated lady, whose theatrical career was as brief as it was brilliant, retired from the stage on her marriage with a nobleman of exalted rank, and holding a high office in the service of his Sovereign. For some years she happily enjoyed her privileged position, amidst universal respect, and with marks of more than ordinary consideration from the Sovereigns, Princes, and the great personages who formed her habitual circle at the different courts she visited. Unfortunately, this amiable and gifted lady and her husband have lost the whole of their private fortune in the recent convulsions of the Continent; and, to secure the future welfare of her family, she is compelled to return to the stage. Music having ever been with her a ruling taste at the *dilettanti* Court of Berlin, where she has of late years resided, and of which she was one of the principal ornaments, she has constantly cultivated her remarkable natural gifts of voice. Thus, by deep study, and without necessity of overtasking exertions, she is said, on all sides, to have added to her former power and beauty of tone still greater delicacy in expressing every shade of vocal and dramatic sentiment.

MUSICAL EVENTS.—M. Hanssens, the *chef d'orchestre* of the St. James's Theatre, will take a benefit this morning. The concert of Ernst, the violinist, and Hallé, the pianist, will be given on Monday, at the Hanover Rooms. Mr. John Parry will repeat his entertainment on Monday, at Willis's Rooms. On Friday next (the 6th of July) will be given the fourth and last Grand Morning Concert of the season at the Royal Italian Opera, Covent-garden. The celebrated "Chorus of Poignards," from Meyerbeer's "Huguenots," the "Prayer," without accompaniment, from "Macanelli," and the marvellous Dervishes' chorus from Beethoven's "Ruins of Athens," will be sung; and the orchestra, conducted by Costa, will play the "Leonora" overture of Beethoven, the "Oberon" of Weber, and the "Anacron" of Cherubini. Koutski (the violinist), Demunck (the violoncellist), and Messrs. Osborne and Lindsay Sloper (the pianists), will perform solos. Grist, Agnelli, Dorus Gras, Merle, Miss Catherine Hayes, Mdlle. Corbairi, and Madame Persiani, Mario, Salvi, and Sims Reeves, Mei, Lavi, and Soldi, Tamburini, Tagliacolo, Polonini, Marini, and Massol, will be the singers. The opera of the "Prophète" has been represented twenty-two times in Paris, despite of the cholera and of political anxieties, and still produces large receipts. Its run will terminate this month, as Madame Viardot departs for London, to play her original part of *Fides* at the Royal Italian Opera, where the opera has been in active rehearsal for some days, and will be produced early in July. Mario is to appear as *John of Leyden*, the false Prophet; Marini, Mei, and Polonini will be the three *Anabaptist Chiefs*; Tagliacolo, Count d'Oberthal, and Miss Catherine Hayes will be *Berthe*. The principal singers of the company will assist in the concerted pieces.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' INSTITUTION.—On Tuesday afternoon the annual examination of the children of this excellent institution, which was established in 1845, for the purpose of clothing, educating, and maintaining the orphan and necessitous children of commercial travellers, was held at the London Tavern; J. Masterman, Esq., M.P., presided. The manner in which the children acquitted themselves at the examination elicited the enthusiastic applause of a most numerous auditory. The subjects selected embraced all those branches of secular and religious instruction which are requisite for an enlightened education, and the answering of the children showed that they perfectly comprehended the various elementary departments of knowledge in which they were examined. In the evening the governors, donors, and subscribers took tea. From the report of the committee, it appeared that the first election of children took place in 1847, and that there were at present in the establishment, which is situated at Wanstead, 57 inmates; that the advantages of the institution were not limited to Great Britain, but included Ireland; and that in imparting information, all sectarianism was sedulously avoided.

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE AMENDMENT OF THE LAW.—On Monday evening, an adjourned meeting of this society took place at the rooms, 21, Regent-street. Lord Brougham presided. The discussion on the propriety of appointing authorised reporters for each of the superior courts of law and equity, was adjourned to the first meeting of the society which shall be held subsequent to the Long Vacation. Mr. C. Pearson, M.P., then addressed the meeting in elucidation of suggestions in regard to an improved system of prison discipline, which had been extensively distributed among the members of the society. He stated that it was not his intention to originate any formal resolution on the subject, but merely to ask the meeting to consent to refer the matter to a committee of the society, which should have power to report on it on a future occasion to the general body. The chief object of law, he observed, was the protection of the honest portion of the community from the encroachments of the dishonest; and he contended that it was the duty of the Legislature to see that that protection was afforded in the most economical manner. He was prepared to prove, in the clearest manner, the following propositions:—That, for the purpose of more economically and effectually punishing, deterring, and reforming criminals, it is expedient to award, in proportion to their crimes, labour instead of time sentences, and to render the duration of their imprisonment, and the quantity and quality of their diet, dependent upon their conduct in gaol, and upon the amount of their labour, having regard to their age, sex, and strength. That, by a judicious application of this system, any number of prisoners, of the average age, health, and strength of the criminal class, may be made to produce food and clothes sufficient for themselves and the officers of the establishment, by labour on land, and will be rendered more willing and more able to maintain themselves by honest industry restored to a state of freedom. He was prepared to show that if 1000 persons were placed in a prison conducted on this system, and having 1000 acres of land attached to it, which should be purchased at the highest value of agricultural land, it could be carried out at a cost of £110 a prisoner, while in the model prisons at Pentonville and Reading, with all their acknowledged inefficiency, the cost was from £220 to £250 a prisoner. No system was reformatory which did not provide for the uprooting of habits of idleness, and the cultivation of habits of self-denial; and these habits could not be produced in prisons where criminals were super-saturated with idleness, as in the separate system. The same motives which enabled men to advance themselves in society should be suggested to the prisoner. The quantity and quality of his food, and the duration of his imprisonment, should be made to depend on the amount of work done by him; and such a process of reformation should be commenced in prison with respect to his character as would fit him for co-operating with society on his return to it. He concluded by proposing that his suggestions be referred to a committee of the society for consideration. Mr. Hill seconded the motion; and Lord Brougham, in putting it from the chair, said that he would give a formal notice in his place in the House of Lords of his intention to bring the whole question of prison discipline before the House on some given convenient day, and he would then press on the attention of the Legislature the views put forward by Mr. Pearson. The motion was then carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned.

COUNTRY NEWS.

RUGBY SCHOOL.—Mr. E. Parry, son of Captain Sir Edward Parry, head boy of the school, and who last year obtained the Queen's Medal for the Historical Essay, has just gained the prize for the Latin Essay.

EIGHT MEN KILLED AT ROXBURGH.—On Wednesday week a frightful accident occurred at the railway-bridge now building at Roxburgh, over the Teviot, on the line of the Kelso and St. Boswell's branch of the Edinburgh and Hawick Railway. The bridge consists of a number of stone piers, all of which are up to the intended height, and the arches are in course of formation. The abutment on the north side of the river, and the second pier from it, rest on each side of a very deep quarry, out of which the stones to build the bridge have been worked (this part of the structure not being in the river); and between these there was an intermediate pier, over which, at the time of the accident, rested one of the large heavy travelling cranes used in lifting blocks of stone and other weights; the crane, however, as we understand, did not rest upon the pier, but rested upon a self-supporting service-way. Between five and six o'clock eight men were on the crane, engaged in the work of springing the two arches, and a number of others were working in the quarry beneath, a depth of from eighty to ninety feet; when, without giving any warning, the pier in question gave way with a sudden crash, precipitating the eight men, the unfinished part of the arches, and the wooden framework underneath, into the abyss below, and burying those employed there in the ruins. Surgical assistance was promptly sent for, and the dead, as they were taken from the ruins, and survivors who were in a state to be removed, were, after being attended to, conveyed to their homes. Several of the unfortunate men were shockingly mutilated. There were eight who were either killed on the spot, or who died soon after being taken out.

ELIZABETH WOODCOCK.—At the village of Impington, near Cambridge, where Mrs. Woodcock, fifty years since, was miraculously recovered from a snow-drift, wherein she had remained eight days, a jubilee has just been held, to commemorate the setting up of a monument in place of the stone reared just after the above event. On Tuesday week, a large barn was tastefully decorated with roses and other flowers and evergreens, in the midst of which was a portrait of Elizabeth Woodcock, a wreath of white flowers representing the snow. In this barn refreshments were served to 120 of the villagers; dancing was kept up till about eleven o'clock, when the parish-clerk, William Mancey, who found Mrs. Woodcock in the snow, recited the circumstances to the company. The narrator was then carried round the barn; and dancing being resumed, was kept up till three o'clock, when the party separated, highly delighted with the village festival, which it is proposed to celebrate annually. The new monument consists of a neat stone column and pedestal, 7 feet 4 inches high, the latter bearing suitable inscriptions; it is placed in a field near the Histon railway station. The cost has been defrayed by public subscription.

COLLIER EXPLOSION IN SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.—A serious explosion from fire-damp occurred at half-past seven o'clock on Tuesday morning, in a pit belonging to Mr. T. Morris, of Great Bridge, near Dudley. The colliers, sixty-eight in number, on entering the pit an hour before, were accompanied by Thomas Pritchards, the "doggy," who had the safety-lamp, and is said to have made use of it. The explosion was heard in the neighbourhood, and in a short time several thousands of persons were assembled, and exertions were made as speedily as possible to rescue the workpeople. Before eleven o'clock eight of them were brought up dead and 54 living, of which last number many were dreadfully injured. Six boys were still in the pit, of whose deaths no doubt was entertained. Seven horses were in the pit at the time, two of which have been brought up alive. The pit had not been worked since Saturday last. The unfortunate "doggy" is amongst those deprived of life, and as yet the immediate cause of the calamity is unknown.

THE NECESSITY FOR HOLDING CORONERS' INQUESTS IN CASES OF CHOLERA.—Mr. Bedford, coroner for Westminster, as also several city and metropolitan coroners, have received copies of a correspondence from the General Board of Health on the subject of holding inquests in cases of cholera. It appears that the Rev. G. R. Harding, of the Keynsham Union, has refused to bury five persons who have died from cholera until an inquest has been held, and in consequence the clerk to the board of guardians addressed to the General Board of Health a letter, in which the circumstances are represented. The secretary to the Board of Health says, "I am to state in reply, that by the common law the occurrence of mortal disease through causes known to be within control, and therefore preventible, is a case to which by possibility criminal culpability may attach, and therefore a legitimate subject of inquiry."

IRELAND.

REPRESENTATIVE PEER.—John Cavendish, Baron Kilmaine, has been chosen by a majority of votes to be the Peer to sit in the House of Lords of the United Kingdom, in the room of Archibald Earl of Gosford, deceased.

THE STATE PRISONERS.—In consequence of the appearance of cholera on board the *Mount Stuart* Elphinstone, Smith O'Brien and the other three state prisoners will be sent to Van Diemen's Land in her Majesty's ship *Swift*, ordered to the Pacific station.

The Pope has contributed 20,000 francs for the relief of the poor in the west. The fact is announced in a letter from Archbishop M'Hale.

HARVEST PROSPECTS.—All accounts concur in representing the state of the crops as most cheering. There is no appearance, to any extent, of potato blight. Wheat and oats look well, and there is every hope, under Providence, that the able-bodied millions of Ireland will have a sufficiency of home-grown produce to satisfy their wants.

THE CHOLERA IN DUBLIN.

The latest official returns are as follows in the South Dublin Union district:—**BRENSWICK-STREET HOSPITAL.**—In hospital at last report, 20; admitted since, 48; total, 68. Of these there were discharged cured, 30; died, 23; in hospital 15. Total number admitted since opening, 254; discharged cured, 122; died, 117; in hospital now, 15.

KILMAINHAM HOSPITAL.—In hospital at last report, 24; admitted since, 85; discharged cured, 32; died, 40; remaining in hospital, 37. Total number admitted since opening, 467; discharged cured, 197; died, 233; remaining in hospital, 37.

It appears from the tenor of the returns generally that the disease throughout the poorer localities has again put on a virulent aspect within the last week. The number of cases was reported as having increased, and the character of the symptoms more formidable.

The number of cases in the North Union Cholera Hospital, admitted up to the 18th of June was 295; of these there were 136 deaths 124 had been discharged cured, and there were remaining in the hospital 56.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS FOR THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The continued accumulation of capital, from a deficiency of demand in other quarters, has again improved the prices of the English funds this week. Consols on Monday held firmly the advance of the previous Saturday; and on Tuesday, upon the receipt of intelligence that the insurrection in Baden was suppressed, and the evacuation of Alessandria by the Austrians effected, Consols advanced from 91½ to 91½ 92 x d. This was followed by another advance of ½ per cent. on Wednesday; and on Thursday Consols touched 92½ to ½. Exchequer Bills quote an improvement of about 1s. India Bonds remain at previous rates. A slight reaction in Consols occurred towards the close of business, the following being the last quotations of actual bargains:—Three per Cent. Reduced Annuities, 91½; New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cent. Annuities, 92½; Long Annuities, to expire January, 1860, 8 11-16; Ditto, Thirty Years, October 10, 1859, 8½; India Bonds, under £1000, 68 p; Consols for Account, 92½; Exchequer Bills, £1000, June, 46 p; £500, June, 46 p.

The foreign funds have been firmer during the week, prices in some instances quoting an advance. Spanish Actives on Tuesday improved to 17, the Three per Cent. to 34½, the latter again improving on Wednesday to 34½, which has since been fully maintained. Portuguese Four per Cent. has also advanced from Monday's price of 28½ to 29, but has since receded a point. At the close of the week the market generally displayed much firmness, as the following prices will show:—Brazilian Bonds, 80½; Ditto, Small, 81½; Ditto, New, 1829 and 1839, 80; Buenos Ayres Bonds, Six per Cent., 42½; Equador Bonds, 3½; Mexican, Five per Cent., 1846, Ex Coupons, 28; Ditto, Account, 28½; Peruvian Bonds, Deferred, 14½; Portuguese, Four per Cent., Account, 28½; Russian Bonds, 103; Spanish Five per Cent., 1840, 17½; Ditto, Account, 17½; Ditto, Three per Cent., 34½.

Shares have been more buoyant during the week; Eastern Counties, Great Western, and North-Western quoting an advance. The market generally is not, however, much firmer, the low price of Eastern Counties tempting investors being the principal cause of that stock rising. The closing values of the Shares last dealt in are, for Aberdeen, 18; Birmingham and Oxford Junction (calls duly paid, or with a guarantee), 25½; Ditto (without guarantee), 23½; Boston, Stamford, and Birmingham, 5½; Bristol and Exeter, 66; Chester and Holyhead, Preference, 12½; Eastern Counties, 8½; Ditto, Extension, 5 per Cent., No. 2, 4½ prem.; Ditto, Northern and Eastern, 6 per Cent. Quarter Shares, 13½; East Lincoln, 28; Gt. Northern, 10½; Do., ½, A Defrd., 4½; Great Western, 84; Ditto, Quarter Shares, 17½; Ditto, Fifths, 16; Ditto, New £17, 11½; Hull and Selby, 98½; Lancaster and Carlisle, Thirds, 9½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, Fifths, 6½; Leeds and Bradford, 100; London and Blackwall, 4½; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 37½; Ditto, Preference, Five per Cent., 92½; London and North-Western, 133; Ditto, New Quarters, 10½; London and South-Western, New Scrip, 1848, Preference Seven per Cent. on Deposit, and Five per Cent. on Calls, 64; Manchester, Buxton, and Matlock, ½; Midland, 68½; Do., £50 Shares, 13½; Norfolk, Gt. Five per Cent., 184; North Staffordshire, 13½; Reading, Guildford, and Reigate, 16½; Royston and Hitchin, 4½; South-Eastern, 20½; Ditto, Registered, No. 4, 6½; South Wales, 16; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 21½; Ditto, Newcastle Extension, 14½; Ditto, Great North-Eastern Preference, 4½; York and North Midland, 33½; Ditto, Preference, 6½; Boulogne and Amiens, 74; Luxembourg, 2; Namur and Liege, 74; Northern of France, 10; Orleans and Bordeaux, 3½; Rouen and Havre, 10½. Union of Australia Joint Stock Bank, 24½.

SATURDAY MORNING.—Consols opened buoyantly yesterday, advancing to 92½ to ½. The news by the Continental mail not being, however, regarded favourably, a reaction to 91½ ex div. afterwards occurred. In the Foreign and Share Market there were no changes of importance.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—During the present week the arrivals of English wheat coastwise for our market have been confined to 1240 quarters, chiefly from Essex and Kent. Those by land carriage and sample have been small in the extreme. To-day the stands were very scantily supplied, owing to which the demand for all kinds of wheat of home produce was firm, at prices fully equal to those obtained on Monday, and at which clearances were effected at an early hour. The imports of foreign wheat have amounted to 3560 quarters. Selected qualities moved off readily, at extraordinary rates of value. In the middling and inferior kinds a moderate business was transacted at late rates. Floating cargoes of wheat and other grain were quite as dear. No English barley on sale; the supply of foreign was 5910 quarters. Grinding qualities sold freely, all other kinds slowly, at full prices. Malt was in good supply and heavy demand at barely last week's quotations. The best feed oats were in good request at extreme currencies; but of samples moved off heavily. Flour steady, but not dear. Indian corn, beans, and peas as last advised.

ARRIVALS.—English: wheat, 1240; barley, 10; oats, 1930; malt, 4510; flour, 2750; Irish: barley, —; oats, —. Foreign: wheat, 5910; barley, 5910; oats, 14,120. Flour, — quarters.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 42s to 50s; ditto, white, 44s to 56s; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 42s to 48s; ditto, white, 44s to 52s; rye, 25s to 35s; grinding (barley) 42s to 25s; distilling ditto, 26s to 27s; malting ditto, 28s to 31s; Norfolk and Lincoln malt, 58s to 59s; brown ditto, 55s to 56s; Kingston and Ware, 58s to 60s; Chevalier, 60s to 62s; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 14s to 17s; potato ditto, 16s to 20s; Youghal and Cork, black, 38s to 18s; ditto, white, 15s to 16s; tick beans, new, 28s to 31s; ditto, old, —s to —s; grey peas, 30s to 32s; maple, 34s to 35s; white, 26s to 27s; boilers, 28s to 33s per quarter. Town-made flour, 39s to 44s; Suffolk, 38s to 38s; Stockton and Yorkshire, 38s to 38s, per 280 lbs.—**Foreign.** Danzig red wheat, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; barley, —s to —s; oats, —s to —s; beans, —s to —s; peas, —s to —s, per quarter. Flour, American, 22s to 25s per barrel; Baltic, 22s to 24s per barrel.

The Seed Market.—Canary seed has further declined in value 5s per quarter. All other seed are a dull sale, at barely stationary prices. Linseed, English, sowing, 54s to 55s; Baltic, crushing, 58s to 46s; Mediterranean and Odessa, 58s to 46s; hempeed, 32s to 35s per quarter; coriander, 16s to 25s per cwt; brown mustard-seed, 6s to 10s; white ditto, 6s to 10s; tares, 0d to 0s 0d per bushel; English rapeseed, new, £32 to £36 per last of ten quarters; linseed cakes, English, 43 10s to 410 0s; ditto, foreign, £5 0s to £5 0s per 1000; rapeseed cakes, £4 10s to £4 10s per ton; canary, 110s to 160s per quarter. English clover seed, red, —s to —s; extra, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; extra, up to —s. Foreign, red, —s to —s; extra, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; extra, up to —s. The prices of wheat bread, in the metropolis are from 7d to 7½d; of household loaf, 3d to 5½d per 4lb loaf.

Weekly Average.—Wheat, 44s 6d; barley, 26s 6d; oats, 18s 9d; rye, 25s 9d; beans, 30s 10d; peas, 31s 5d.

The Six Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 44s 6d; barley, 27s 3d; oats, 17s 11d; rye, 25s 11d; beans, 31s 0d; peas, 31s 3d.

Duties on Foreign Corn.—Wheat, 1s 0d; barley, 1s 0d; oats, 1s 0d; rye, 1s 0d; beans, 1s 0d; peas, 1s 0d.

Tea.—Our market is decidedly flat for all kinds of tea. In prices, however, we have no change to notice. The supply offering is by no means large.

Sugar.—A steady business has been transacted in raw sugars, at an advance of quite 6d per cwt. Refined goods have ruled firm, at the same amount of improvement. Brown lump has produced 51s to 51s 6d; and standard ditto, 52s to 52s 6d per cwt.

Coffee.—Native Ceylon has been in good supply, at 1s improved quotations; viz. from 34s to 35s per cwt, at which nearly 10,000 bags have changed hands.

Rice.—The transactions in this article have been only to a moderate extent; yet the importers will not sell except at full prices.

Provisions.—Owing to the prevailing warm weather the demand for foreign butter has become heavy, at a decline in the quotations of 2s per cwt. Fine Friesland is selling at 7½s to 78s; the Holland, 68s to 74s; fine Kiel, 70s to 72s; and inferior qualities as low as 65s per cwt. Irish butter is dull, at barely last week's currencies. First Cork lower, Glonmel, and Kilkenny, 60s to 68s; Waterford, 66s to 68s; Limerick, 60s to 68s; and Cork, 68s per cwt. English butter—the supply of which is good—heavy at drooping prices. Fine Dorset, 76s to 80s; middling ditto, 60s to 70s; fine Devon, 65s to 70s per cwt. Fresh, 6s to 10s per dozen lbs. Really prime Irish bacon is in good supply, at 1s to 2s per cwt. Fresh, 6s to 10s per dozen lbs. Really prime Waterford, landed, 70s to 72s per cwt. American, at 1s to 2s per cwt. held at 40s to 52s. Irish mutton and beef have improved in value 1s to 2s per cwt.

Tallow.—Very few transactions have taken place in tallow this week. P.T.C. on the spot, is selling at 38s to 38s 3d per cwt. Town tallow, 37s to 37s 3d per cwt, net cash.

Oils.—The market for all kinds is heavy, and prices are with difficulty supported.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £3 10s to £3 17s; clover ditto, £2 10s to £2 10s; and straw, £1 8s to £1 13s per load.

Wool.—Public sales of about 20,000 bales are expected to take place next month. Privately, the demand is far from active, yet the quotations are fairly supported.

Potatoes.—New potatoes are selling at from 49s to 51s per ton. The imports from the Continent this week have exceeded 600 tons.

Spirits.—The market for rum is steady. 600 puncheons West India have changed hands this week. Brandy and corn spirits are quite as dear.

Coals (Friday).—Carr's Hartley, 13s 6d; Chester Main, 13s 6d; Bewick and Co., 14s 9d; Hutton, 16s 6d; Haswell, 16s 6d; Lambton, 16s; and Caradoc, 15s 3d per ton.

Iron (Friday).—The plantation accounts are considered as bad as ever. Still, however, the dealers purchase all kinds of iron at 10s per ton; hence the business doing is small at our quotations. The duty is called £80,000 to £90,000.

Sussex pockets. £3 5s to £4 6s; Weald of Kent ditto, £3 12s to £4 4s; Mid and East Kent ditto, £4 4s to £4 6s per cwt.

Smithfield (Friday).—The supply of beasts in to-day's market was moderate as to number, but its general quality was good. As the attendance of buyers was slightly on the increase, and the dead markets well cleared of the supplies, the better trade ruled steady, at full rates, but at nothing quotable beyond, the improvement noticed in the prices on Monday; and at which a clearance was effected. The numbers of sheep were again seasonably extensive. Although the demand for that description of stock was far from active, last week's currencies were fairly supported. Prime Down lambs moved off steadily, at full prices. All other breeds were dull, but not lower. Calves were in good supply, and slaughter, at late rates. In pigs scarcely any business was transacted. Milch cows met a dull inquiry, at from £13 to £18 each, including their small calf.

Per 8lb to sink the offals:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; second quality ditto, 2s 10d to 3s 2d; prime large oxen, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; prime Scots, &c., 3s 8d to 3s 10d; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; second quality ditto, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; prime coarse-woolled ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; prime South Down ditto, 3s 10d to 4s 0d; large coarse calves 3s 0d to 3s 6d; prime small ditto, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; large hogs, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; neat small porkers, 3s 8d to 4s 0d; lambs, 4s 6d to 5s 8d. Suckling calves, 18s to 25s; and quarter old store pigs, 16s to 21s per cwt. Total supplies: Beasts, 694; cows, 120; sheep and lambs, 13,200; calves, 385; pigs, 290. Foreign supplies: Beasts, 71; sheep and lambs, 1250; calves, 190. Scotch: Beasts, 180; sheep, 284.

Navvies and Leadenhall (Friday).—Our markets were somewhat inactive to-day, yet last week's quotations were fairly supported. The supplies on offer were very moderate.

Per 8lb by the carcass:—Inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; middling ditto, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; prime large ditto, 2s 10d to 3s 0d; prime small ditto, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; large pork, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; inferior ditto, 3s 0d to 3s 2d; middling ditto, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; prime ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; veal, 3s 0d to 3s 6d; small pork, 3s 8d to 4s 0d; lamb, 4s 6d to 5s 8d.

ROBT. HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, JUNE 26.

PRIZE MONEY.

Notice is hereby given to Captain (then Commander) Chads, and the officers and crew of her Majesty's steam-sloop *St. George*, that they are actually on board and entitled to share in the proceeds arising from the capture of the slave-vessels *Isabel* and *Scotto Antonio D'Almeida*, that the distribution thereof will be made on the 25th day of July next, at No. 1, James-street, Adelphi, and where the lists will be re-called on Wednesdays and Fridays for three months.

BANKRUPTS.

S A EYRE, Fitzroy-street, Fitzroy-square, apothecary. J BOLTON, Pall-mall, tailor. L JUST, sen, Jerusalem-passages, St John's-square, Clerkenwell, watch-manufacturer. J W EDMONDS, High-street, Poplar, victualler. H COLLINGS, Wickwar, Gloucestershire, inn-keeper. A McLELLAN, Sheffield, draper. ARAH G EYRE, Leeds, innkeeper. J WILKINSON, Liverpool, brass-founder. E ELLOTT, jun, Rochdale, Lancashire, chemist and druggist. F G N CLARKE, Barton-upon-Irwell, Lancashire, sculptor. W WILSON, Houghton-le-Spring, Durham, maltster.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

G PATTERSON, Renfrew, commission-merchant. J AITCHISON, Old Castles, Berwickshire, merchant. J SCOTT, Edinburgh, tobacconist. J SMYTHE, Whitechapel, Berwickshire. R MEEK, Glasgow, coal-manager.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29.

ST. JAMES'S PALACE, JUNE 29.

The Queen has been pleased, on the nomination of Lord Folke, to appoint the under-mentioned Gentlemen to her Majesty's Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms:—J Lane, Esq, vice Birkett, retired; E Goodwin, Esq, vice Maitland, retired.

WHITEHALL, JUNE 28.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint the Rev. Christo to the church and parish of Kildrumny, in the presbytery of Aiford, and the county of Aberdeen, vacant by the death of the Rev A Reid, late Minister thereof.

WAR-OFFICE, JUNE 29.

3rd Light Dragoons: H F G Coleman to be Cornet, vice Townsend. 2nd Foot: Cadet W H Griston to be Ensign, vice MacCarthy. 11th: To be Ensigns: Cadet W D Naper, vice Crooke; Cadet W G Clarkson, vice Simpson. 20th: Cadet C E Parkinson to be Ensign, vice Robinson. 4

NEWCASTLE RACE PLATE.

This handsome Prize was run for at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on Thursday. It consists of a richly-chased candelabrum, with six branches for lights, and a triangular base, composed of three spirited horses, one at each angle; the whole surmounted by a figure of Victory. The height is 31 inches weight 240 oz.



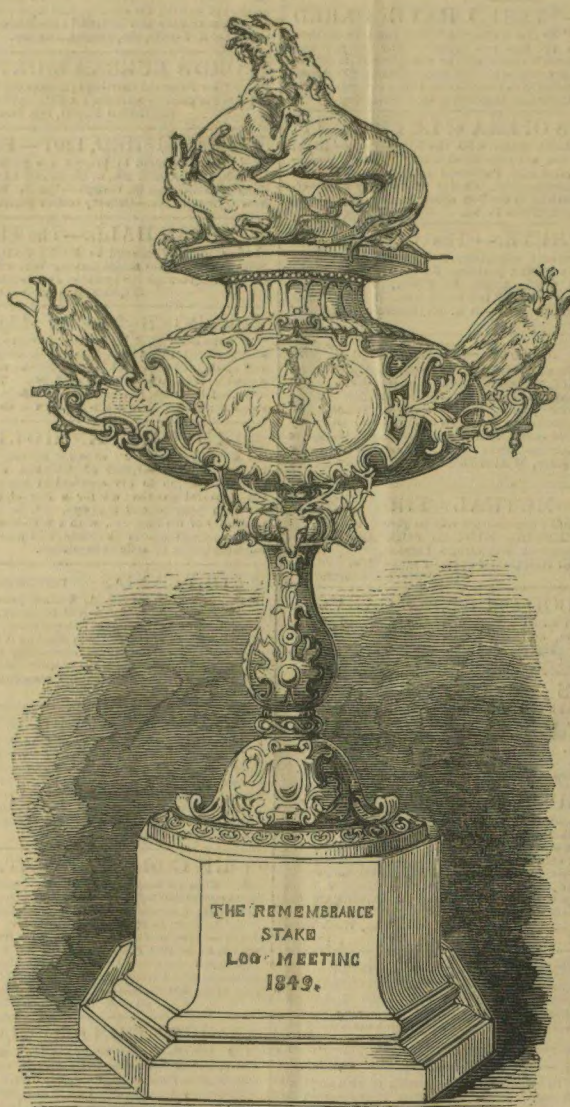
THE NEWCASTLE RACE PLATE.

value £150. It has been ably manufactured by Messrs. Reid and Son, silver-smiths, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

THE LOO REMEMBRANCE CUP.

This beautiful Cup, just run for at the Loo Meeting, in Holland, is of classic form, enriched with ornaments of Elizabethan character and sporting device, two cleverly modelled hawks resting on the handles; the Cup being surmounted by a spirited group of wolf and dogs. The composition is intended to be commemorative of the reception given to the late Prince of the Netherlands at Glentilt, Mar Lodge, Dalkeith, and Gordon Castle, during the visit of his Royal Highness to Scotland in the year 1845. It has a legend to that effect on the base.

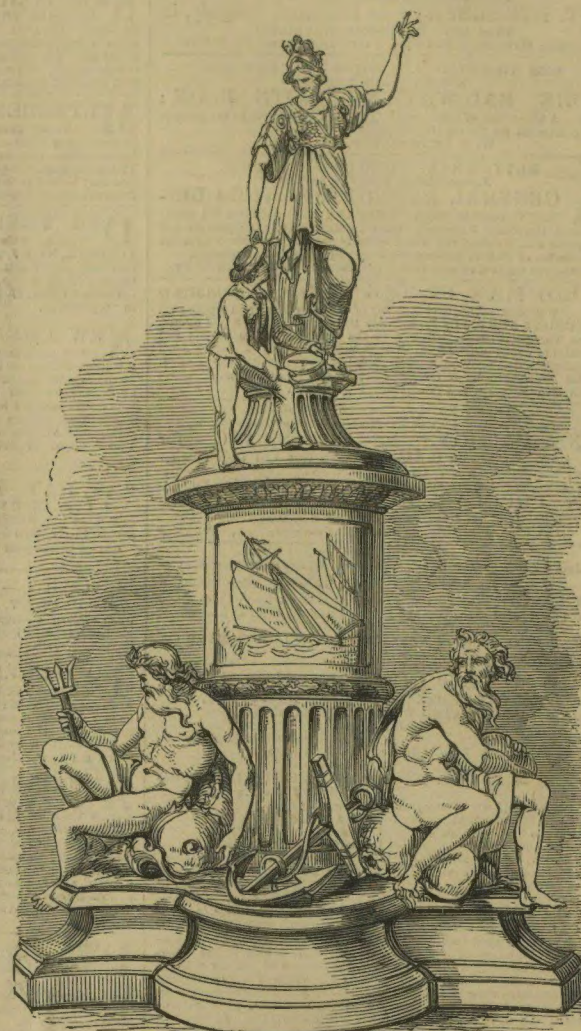
This Prize was ordered by his Majesty, the present King of the Netherlands, during his late visit to this country. The weight of the Cup is upwards of 200 oz.;



THE LOO REMEMBRANCE CUP.

value £150. It was designed and modelled by Mr. A. Brown, under the superintendence of E. H. Baily, Esq., R.A.; and it has been chasteily executed in silver, by Hunt and Roskell, late Storr, Mortimer, and Hunt, 156, New Bond-street.

The King of the Netherlands, during his recent visit to the metropolis, ordered of Messrs. Beale and Co., of New Bond-street, some superb hawking scarves, which were manufactured at Spitalfields expressly to his Majesty's taste. They



THE ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB CHALLENGE CUP.

are made of soft rich silk, the design after Landseer, representing a falcon on the stoop, just before pouncing on its prey. The ground of the scarf is black, the falcon bright scarlet; these being the colours of the Hawking Club.

The Hawking Club is highly patronised by his Majesty; several English gentlemen belong to it, and the King is very desirous of increasing the number of its English members. The Duke of Leeds, the Earl of Strathmore, and Mr. W. S. Crawford are already members of the Club.

ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB CHALLENGE CUP.

The members of the Royal Thames Yacht Club are indebted to the good taste of the Right Hon. Lord Alfred Paget for this most pleasing and beautiful work of art. The composition is a group of figures, Neptune and Aeolus, with appropriate naval emblems surrounding the base of a column, surmounted by figures of Minerva personifying Wisdom instructing Youth in the science of Navigation. On one side of the column is a beautiful bas-relievo of a sailing match, and the reverse bears the inscription—"The Grand Challenge Cup, presented by the Royal Thames Yacht Club, 1849."

This tasteful work has been designed and modelled by Mr. A. Brown, under the superintendence of E. H. Baily, Esq., R.A., and has been exquisitely manufactured by Hunt and Roskell, late Storr, Mortimer, and Hunt, 156, New Bond-street. The Cup weighs 270 oz.; value £200.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR JULY.

The great heat of the weather only admits of the most diaphanous tissues for morning and evening dress; rich stuffs being replaced by elegant transparent tissues, which can scarcely be manufactured with sufficient rapidity to meet the demand. The promenades and drawingrooms present an infinity of aerial muslins, gauzes, cashmeres, organdies. Cashmere barèges are quite in vogue; the plain ones are very much worn; the skirts are trimmed with deep flounces; and a wreath of oak-leaves woven in brown silk on the barège itself forms a device of elegant simplicity. Book muslins are equally sought after, and nothing is more becoming for *chez soi* in the country; especially full loose gowns of organdie, trimmed with lace, over light-coloured slips. Among these flowing muslins we sometimes see dresses of shot-silk; but, however light the shades may be, they are rare. Artificial flowers are worn no longer, but wreaths of natural flowers ornament the hair and corsage. To maintain them fresh all the evening, the flowers are attached to wire, which is arranged in wreaths, bunches, or bouquets: geraniums thus placed are delicious.

Mantles do not vary in form, but their cut has been perfected by a bending at the waist. They are worn in silk of light shades, with two rows of frills. The richest are trimmed with deep black lace, and some are braided. Mantles of embroidered muslin are much less fashionable; and large shawls of black or white lace are infinitely more graceful thrown over a dinner or evening costume than when displayed on a walking dress.

The bonnets are regulated, too, by the temperature: Italian gauzes have almost entirely supplanted straw bonnets; nearly all the drawn bonnets are made with these light gauzes, puffed and trimmed with simple ruches over and under the poke for young people, and little bunches of the lightest feathers for married ladies. The shapes are still open and round: they are very becoming either in forming a frame, as it were, to the hair, dressed in *bandeaux*, or in enveloping long curls. The bonnet trimmings are very simple, and are placed very low at the side.

Caps are worn so small, and are placed so much on the back of the head, that it is difficult to distinguish them from the head-dress. Thick caps for the morning are more than ever greatly admired; they are usually made of Mechlin lace, old Valenciennes or pillow lace, ornamented with bunches of ribbon *à la jardinière* instead of ribbon strings, they have lappets placed a little behind the ears.

SOMERSET HOUSE.—Mr. P. Cunningham, in his valuable "Hand-book for London," just published, relates:—A little above the entrance door to the office of Stamps and Taxes, is a white watch face, regarding which the popular belief has been, and is, that it was left there by a labouring man who fell from a scaffold at the top of the building, and was only saved from destruction by the ribbon of his watch, which caught in a piece of projecting work. In thankful remembrance (so the story runs) of his wonderful escape, he afterwards desired that his watch might be placed as near as possible to the spot where his life had been saved. Such is the story told fifty times a week to groups of gaping listeners—a story I am sorry to disturb, for the watch of the labouring man is nothing more than a watch face, placed by the Royal Society as a meridian mark for a portable transit instrument in one of the windows of their ante-rooms. To this account of Somerset House, I may add a little circumstance of interest which I was told by an old clerk on the establishment of the Audit-office. "When I first came to this building," he said, "I was in the habit of seeing, for many mornings, a thin spare naval officer, with only one arm, enter the vestibule at a smart step, and make direct for the Admiralty, over the rough round stones of the quadrangle, instead of taking what others generally took, and continue to take, the smooth pavement of the sides. His thin frail figure shook at every step, and I often wondered why he chose so rough a footway; but I ceased to wonder when I heard that the thin frail officer was no other than Lord Nelson, who always took," continued my informant, "the nearest way to the place he wanted to go to."

BATHING IN THE THAMES.—The impurity of the stream has driven bathers away; yet it was once very different. Lord Northampton, in the reign of Charles I., was taken ill of the colic, of which he died, while washing himself in the Thames, after he had waited on the King at supper, and had supped himself. Blood concealed himself among the reeds at Battersea, in order to shoot King Charles II., while bathing in the Thames over against Chelsea. One of the darling recreations of Sir Dudley North was swimming in the Thames; "he used that so much, that he became quite master of it." The polite Earl of Chesterfield directed a letter to Lord Pembroke (the collector), who was always swimming:—"To the Earl of Pembroke, in the Thames, over against Whitehall." "Last week," says Lord Byron, the poet, in a letter dated August 11th, 1807, "I swam in the Thames from Lambeth through the two bridges (Westminster and Blackfriars), a distance—including the different turns and tacks made on the way—of three miles."—Cunningham's Hand-book for London.



PARIS FASHIONS FOR JULY.